365. Young persons without vocational skills can be employed only for the purposes of vocational training.

366. Before admission to work, an adolescent is given an initial medical examination, as well as periodic examinations and medical clearance tests during the employment period. Where a medical practitioner states that a particular job constitutes a danger to an adolescent's health, the establishment is obliged to change the type of work or, if there is no such possibility, immediately terminate his contract and pay him compensation at the rate of his remuneration in lieu of notice. The hours of work of an adolescent under the age of 16 years must not exceed six a day. The hours of work of an adolescent over 16 years of age must not exceed eight a day. Any period of training is included in the working time of an adolescent (regardless of whether it takes place during working hours), subject to a maximum of 18 hours a week.

367. An adolescent must not be employed on overtime or night work. The rest break in an adolescent's work, including the night, should be no less than 14 hours.

368. In accordance with the Labour Code, it is forbidden to employ adolescents in prohibited types of work. It is permissible only to employ adolescents over 16 years of age on certain types of prohibited jobs, if such employment is necessary for their vocational training.

369. As authorized by law, the Council of Ministers has determined by order the types of prohibited jobs (Order of the Council of Ministers of 1 December 1990 concerning the list of jobs prohibited to adolescents (Dziennik Ustaw No. 85, Text 500 and of 1992 No. 1, Text 1)). On the basis of this list, establishments should describe the posts and kinds of jobs prohibited to adolescents, as well as the jobs permitted to be done by adolescents for the purposes of their vocational training. These lists should be drafted with the participation of a resident physician and in agreement with the works trade union or, if there is none, with other representatives of the employees.

370. The employment of adolescents in jobs forbidden to them cannot be on a permanent basis but should be limited to acquainting them with the basic activities necessary to do the job. In accordance with the Order of the Council of Ministers of 1 December 1990, establishments employing adolescents in jobs prohibited to them are obliged to ensure particular protection of their health, and particularly:

To organize the work and activities of adolescents in such a way that in their place of work they are always under the care of a designated person;

To organize leisure breaks at work for adolescents in rooms isolated from the arduous factors/conditions existing in some workplaces;

To ensure that (a) proper protective clothes and personal protection equipment are used; (b) rules of safety and hygiene at work are applied and (c) training is conducted, in which the rules and the efficient use of individual protection equipment are explained.

371. The employment of adolescents for the purposes of vocational training should take place under the supervision of vocational teachers, practical instructors or other persons authorized to conduct training in the profession.

372. Supervision and monitoring of respect for the regulations on the protection of adolescents at work is exercised by the State Labour Inspectorate. In accordance with article 281 of the Labour Code, labour inspectors have at their disposal repressive means in the form of fines for people infringing the regulations on the protection of adolescents at work. It should be underlined that the violation of any of the provisions on such protection included in the Labour Code and the regulations is treated as an offence.

373. If the number of economically active people in the age group 15-17 is compared with the total population in this age group in Poland, it can be seen that during the period 1978-1994 the numbers of economically active youth increased (see table 29). Boys work more often than girls. First of all it is the children in the country who work. The number of adolescents working in individual farming constitutes 86 per cent of youth working as a source of income. Most often the young people perform their jobs on a part-time basis (see table 30).

Table 28. Number of economically active people aged 15-17 years, 1992-1994

(thousands)

	1992 a/	1993 a/	1994 a/
Total	226	172	94
Boys	134	101	62
Girls	92	71	32

Source: Survey of Economic Activity of the Population of Poland, GUS, 1992, p. 13, p. 25, 1994, p. 25.

a/ August.

Table 29. Economic activity of people aged 15-17 years

	1978			1988			1994		
	Total	Town	Country	Total	Town	Country	Total	Town	Country
	Economically active for 100 people of a given sex and age group								
Total	6.4	3.3	10.6	3.1	1.7	5.6	5.9	1.7	12.8
Boys	7.5	4.1	12.1	3.9	2.2	6.9	7.6	2.2	16.1
Girls	5.2	2.4	8.9	2.3	1.2	4.2	4.1	1.0	9.3

Source: Statistical Yearbook of 1994, GUS, table 1 (85) and economic activity and unemployment in Poland, report prepared on the basis of the Survey of Economic Activity of the Population conducted in August 1994, GUS, December 1994, p. 17.

Note: Data for the years 1978 and 1988 come from the population census and for 1994 from the representative Survey of Economic Activity of the Population in August 1994.

Table 30. Economically active people aged 15-17 years according to economic status and hours of work (in August)

	1992		1993		1994	
	Total	Country	Total	Country	Total	Country
	In thousands					
Total working, including	200	158	164	144	87	75
Full-time	49	37	61	52	28	23
Part-time	151	12	103	92	59	51
Unemployed	26	11	8	4	7	2
Economically active in total	226	169	172	148	94	77
	In %					
Active aged 15-17 years in relation to all people in the same age group	13.0	29.7	10.8	24.6	5.9	12.8

Source: Survey of Economic Activity of the Population of Poland, August 1992, pp. 13-14, August 1993, p. 25, August 1994, p.25.

374. It is problematical to discuss unemployment in relation to juveniles. From representative surveys and labour office registers it appears that the number of youth in the age group 15-17 seeking work as a source of income is decreasing. At the same time young people do not register at labour offices. The number of juveniles registered as unemployed at the labour offices is smaller than the number of people declaring themselves as unemployed in the representative survey of the Central Statistical Office (GUS) in August 1993 and 1994, respectively 1,728 and 5,048 people.

375. Apart from adolescents helping their parents in running farms, for which they usually do not receive any payment, quite a big group of working youth are receiving vocational training in schools attached to establishments or are pupils in small handicraft units. In the period before the transition the number of pupils was significant. Schools attached to establishments mainly existed at big State-owned enterprises and formed the source of new workers. In the 1990s many such schools were closed, among other reasons because of the downfall of some State establishments and the lack of financing from the State budget.

376. Pupils undertaking practical training in schools attached to establishments and pupils learning a craft are young workers (in the understanding of the Labour Code), employed on the basis of an individual employment contract. They receive wages equal to 9, 12 or 15 per cent of the average wage in the State economy, depending on the year of performing their work. On the other hand, pupils of day schools who carry out their vocational training in school workshops or establishments (on the basis of a collective agreement between the school and the establishment) receive the so-called equivalent, which, depending on the year of learning amounts to 9, 12 or 15 per cent of the average payment for an hour in six basic branches of the State economy.

377. In the period 1989-1992, the number of juvenile employees aged 15 to 18 in establishments employing more than five people significantly decreased and amounted to:

1989	463,500
1990	360,500
1991	276,100
1992	225,800 (Statistical report of GUS, 1993)
1993	Comparative data lacking.

378. The juveniles undertaking practical work to learn their professions work in all branches of the State economy, apart from individual farming. In 1992, of the total number of around 226,000 such juveniles, 48 per cent worked in industry, 20.8 per cent in trade and 12.5 per cent in construction.

379. From polls and representative surveys of various research centres, as well as from observation, it appears that apart from children traditionally working on farms helping members of their families, and youth acquiring professional training in State establishments or learning a craft, in the 1990s children worked on the black market. They were often children under 15 years of age. This group of children is not covered by statistics. Children do such jobs temporarily, mainly during their summer holidays.

380. It appears from the Central Statistical Office (GUS) surveys that among families suffering unemployment, in every eighth incomplete family and in every twelfth full family children work as a source of income ("Social and economic position of the unemployed", GUS, 1993). Children's earnings supplement family income or serve to satisfy the children's own needs.

Protection of orphans

381. Children suffering completely or partially from a lack of real parental care and children being cared for in a drastically inappropriate way are legally and institutionally protected by the State.

382. The Family and Guardianship Code specifies cases when another person authorized to exercise parental authority, inter alia in the following situations:

One of the parents is dead, in which case parental authority is vested in the other parent;

One of the parents has been deprived of parental authority or that authority was suspended, in which case it is granted to the other parent.

383. The situation is particular when parental authority is not vested in either of the parents. This happens in the case of:

(i) Death of the parents (natural orphanhood);

(ii) It is not established who the child's mother and father are;

(iii) Both parents lack full capacity to carry out legal transactions;

(iv) Both parents have been deprived of their parental authority or it has been suspended. (The cases given in points (ii), (iii) and (iv) lead to social orphanhood.)

384. In the particular cases enumerated above, the court places the child under the protection of the law. The numbers of biological and social orphans under court protection in the period 1985-1993 are presented in the following tables.

Table 31. Biological orphans under court protection

Year	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
No. of children	6 280	5 840	5 802	5 808	5 769	5 944	6 221

Source: Statistical Yearbook, for 1990 GUS, table 16 (30), 1993, table 15 (141), 1994, table 18 (147).

Table 32. Orphans and incomplete orphans in children's homes

Year	1985	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
No. of children	5 353	4 777	4 521	4 063	4 341	4 389	4 420	4 784

Source: Statistical Yearbook, for 1990 GUS, table 28 (723), 1993, table 32 (625). Small Statistical Yearbook 1995, table 10 (129).

385. The death of both parents (biological orphanhood) and suspension or deprivation of parental authority (social orphanhood) constitute the situations in which the child loses parental care. In order to substitute for the loss of the family home, there are established welfare institutions and the institution of adoption. The welfare institutions take care of children in need, temporarily (emergency departments taking care of children from the ages of 3 to 18) or permanently (institutions bringing up children and welfare institutions, substitute families, child's family houses, "family villages" in Biłgoraj and Kraśnik).

386. The institutions bringing up children and welfare institutions are the following:

Homes for little children of no more than three years of age (transformed into children's homes on 1 January 1993);

Children's homes, for children 3 to 18;

Shelters for adolescents;

Juvenile educational centres;

Special houses for handicapped children.

387. The number of children living in homes for little children and in children's homes is decreasing. In 1993 it was around 20,000. However, the number of children being looked after (as the result of a court judgement) in substitute family is increasing.

Table 33. Number of social orphans (under 18 years of age) under court supervision

Year	1985	1988	1990	1991	1992	1993
No. of children	164 252	177 510	168 711	160 663	157 046	154 529

Source: Statistical Yearbook, GUS: 1990, table 16 (130), 1993, table 15 (141), table 32 (632), 1994, table 18 (147).

Table 34. Juveniles under court supervision referred to welfare and educational institutions

	1985	1988	1990	1991	1992	1993
Children in:						
Substitute families	33 530	37 782	37 215	37 591	38 650	40 788
Other welfare and educational institutions	32 679	32 476	31 915	31 007	29 538	29 259

Source: As above.

388. Owing to the death of both (natural orphans) or one of the parents (half orphans), or deprivation, limitation or suspension of parental authority (social orphans), a significant number of children and youth up to the age of 18 remain under the supervision of the juvenile court while living in social welfare and educational institutions.

389. Certain groups of children deprived of their natural family environment are adopted by couples on the decision of family courts. On average, 1,000 children per annum gain new families in this way.

390. In Poland there are over 150,000 disabled children. A group of them remain in the social welfare and educational institutions for handicapped children. The number of these children slightly increased, but permanently, in recent years.

Table 35. Disabled children in social welfare and educational institutions for children and youth

	1985	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
No. of children, including:	35 165	35 637	36 832	37 881	38 002	37 709
Blind and partially sighted	1 242	1 205	1 387	1 465	1 496	1 260
Deaf and partially deaf	3 691	3 681	3 683	3 783	3 763	3 468
Chronically ill	714	1 168	1 978	2 418	2 212	1 362
Handicapped	486	555	485	561	534	380
Mentally handicapped	25 141	24 390	24 441	24 367	24 663	23 708
Socially maladjusted	3 891	4 638	4 858	5 287	5 334	4 885

Source: Statistical Yearbook, GUS, 1993, table 33 (633) and Small Statistical Yearbook, GUS, 1994, table 10 (124); Small Statistical Yearbook, GUS, 1995, table 10 (129).

391. The basic principle governing the above-mentioned legal and institutionalized forms of State protection of abused children and children deprived of parental care is the welfare of the child and also the universality of social welfare and State supervision of the welfare through the juvenile courts.

Legislation

392. The following legislation is relevant to the implementation of article 10 of the Covenant:

Act of 25 February 1964, the Family and Guardianship Code (Dziennik Ustaw No. 9, Text 59, with further amendments);

Act of 23 April 1964, the Civil Code (Dziennik Ustaw No. 16, Text 93, with further amendments);

Act of 26 June 1974, the Labour Code (Dziennik Ustaw No. 24, Text 141, with further amendments);

Act of 17 December 1974 concerning cash social insurance benefits in respect of sickness and maternity (uniform text Dziennik Ustaw of 1983 No. 30, Text 143 with further amendments);

Act of 29 November 1990 concerning social assistance (Dziennik Ustaw of 1993 No. 13, Text 60);

Act of 14 December 1994 concerning employment and counteracting unemployment (Dziennik Ustaw of 1995 No. 1, Text 1);

Act of 26 July 1991 concerning income tax from individuals (Dziennik Ustaw No. 80, Text 350 with further amendments);

Act of 1 December 1994 concerning family and nursing allowances (Dziennik Ustaw of 1995 No. 4, Text 7);

Act of 7 January 1993 concerning family planning, protection of the human foetus and conditions of admissibility of abortion (Dziennik Ustaw No. 17, Text 78);

Act of 18 July 1974 concerning the alimony fund (uniform text in Dziennik Ustaw of 1991 No. 45, Text 200, with further amendments);

Order of the Council of Ministers of 5 October 1993 concerning determination of the scope and forms as well as procedure of granting to pregnant women and women taking care of a child assistance in the field of social and legal protection (Dziennik Ustaw No. 97, Text 441, amended in 1994; Dziennik Ustaw No. 44, Text 172);

Order of the Council of Ministers of 4 August 1993 concerning conditions, forms and procedures of granting and paying material assistance to pupils and the amount of this assistance (Dziennik Ustaw No. 74, Text 350);

Order of the Council of Ministers of 22 January 1991 concerning conditions, forms and procedures of granting and paying material assistance to students following day studies and the amount of this assistance (Dziennik Ustaw No. 9, Text 32; Dziennik Ustaw No. 112, Text 486);

Order of the Council of Ministers of 17 July 1981 concerning child-care leave (uniform text in Dziennik Ustaw of 1990 No. 76, Text 454, with further amendments);

Order of the Minister of Labour and Social Policy of 21 October 1974 concerning employment of people who have not reached the age of 15 years and releasing juveniles from the obligation of further training (Dziennik Ustaw No. 43, Text 260, changed by Dziennik Ustaw of 1989 No. 20, Text 107);

Order of the Council of Ministers of 1 December 1990 concerning the list of jobs prohibited to adolescents (Dziennik Ustaw No. 85, Text 500 and of 1992 No. 1, Text 1);

Order of the Minister of Labour and Social Policy of 30 December 1974 concerning vocational training and training for performing specific jobs by adolescents in handicraft establishments (Dziennik Ustaw No. 51, Text 335 with further amendments);

Order of the Council of Ministers of 12 October 1989 concerning vocational preparation of adolescents in socialized establishments and their remuneration (Dziennik Ustaw No. 56, Text 332, with further amendments).

Article 11. The right to an adequate standard of living

Standard of living

393. The source of information about the standard of living is a survey carried out by the Central Statistical Office (Główny Urząd Statystyczny - GUS). 17/ Among 3,787 households taking part in the survey, 45.7 per cent were workers' households and 31.7 per cent pensioners' households. The remaining households examined were: farmers' households (7.9 per cent), farmworkers' households (6.5 per cent), households of self-employed or professional persons (4.7 per cent) and households maintained on unearned income, other than pensions (3.5 per cent).

394. Of the households examined 47.8 per cent had one (22.1 per cent), two (17.6 per cent), or more (9.1 per cent) children under the age of 15. There were no working members in 29.6 per cent of households and in every sixth household (15.8 per cent) there were unemployed members, most often one (13.8 per cent of all households). Old-age and other pensioners were members of more than half the households (50.8 per cent). Every third household had one pensioner (32.5 per cent) and in 17.4 per cent of households there were two pensioners. Households with unemployed members and without any working members made up 4.9 per cent of the households examined. Households with unemployed members and without any working members or pensioners made up 2.5 per cent of the households examined.

Evaluation of the general financial situation

395. Most of the households examined evaluated their economic situation as medium (56.5 per cent). A significant part of them evaluated it as bad (28.7 per cent) or very bad (5.4 per cent). The others said it was good (8.9 per cent) or very good (0.6 per cent). The households who evaluated their economic situation as bad were most often those with unemployed family members and without any pensioners (51.6 per cent), households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (47.8 per cent) and mothers raising children (45.3 per cent). The households which evaluated their economic situation as very bad were mainly those with unemployed members of the family and with no working members or members receiving a pension (30.5 per cent), and households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (28.4 per cent).

Ways of managing income

396. A large share of the households economized on living expenses in favour of major purchases (35.5 per cent). In 21.5 per cent of households income was enough to buy only the cheapest food and clothing; 18.0 per cent of households could only afford the cheapest food and did not have enough money for clothing; 17.7 per cent could afford everything.

397. Most commonly it was in households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members that there was only money for the cheapest food and not enough for clothes (44.2 per cent), as well as in those maintained on unearned income other than pensions (39.6 per cent). In those households very often there is not even enough money for the cheapest food (16.8 per cent and 17.2 per cent respectively).

Financial problems of households

398. A significant number of households reported encountering financial problems. Net income covered all expenses with some difficulty in 40.7 per cent of cases; in every fourth household with difficulty (26.2 per cent), in every fifth with great difficulty and in every ninth income was sufficient.

399. Great financial difficulties were most of all reported by households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (65.3 per cent), as well as households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (60.4 per cent).

Characteristics of the economic situation of households

400. The largest share of households characterized their economic situation in 1993 as average (43.1 per cent); every third household as below average (34.6 per cent) and every eighth as almost poor (12.6 per cent). The households which estimated their economic situation as almost poor were those with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (29.5 per cent), households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (26.9 per cent) and mothers raising children (25.9 per cent). The households which estimated their economic situation as poor were those with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (30.5 per cent), and households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (28.4 per cent).

Changes in the standard of living as compared with the preceding year

401. The biggest number of households claimed that compared to the preceding year their standard of living had dropped somewhat (38.0 per cent); 28.5 per cent of all households said that it had dropped significantly, and 29.7 per cent that it had remained at the same level. The households which maintained that their standard of living had dropped significantly were mainly those with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (63.2 per cent) and households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (60.4 per cent).

Difficulties with making payments

402. Almost half of the households examined never had any difficulties with making payments for housing, gas, electricity and water (47.3 per cent); 37.3 per cent sometimes had difficulties and 15.4 per cent often. Such difficulties occurred most often among households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (47.0 per cent) and mothers raising children (33.8 per cent).

B. The right to adequate food

Evaluation of the level of satisfaction of food requirements

403. The largest share of households estimated the level of satisfaction of their food requirements as "neither good nor bad". Every fifth household stated that their food requirements were quite well satisfied (21.7 per cent) and almost as many that they were not well satisfied. The households which evaluated the level of satisfaction of their food requirements as good were those maintained on income from self-employment or professional households (35.6 per cent). Among those that evaluated the level of satisfaction of their food requirements as poor the highest number were households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (57.9 per cent) and households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (28.4 per cent).

The level of satisfaction of food requirements compared to the preceding year

404. The largest number of households stated that compared to the preceding year the level of satisfaction of their food requirements had remained the same (40.7 per cent). Most often this was the opinion expressed by members of self-employed or professional families (56.5 per cent). Every third household considered that it had dropped slightly and 21.4 per cent of the households surveyed that it had dropped significantly. Particularly often this was the case with households having unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (57.9 per cent), households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (53.0 per cent) and mothers raising children (36.0 per cent).

The level of satisfaction of food requirements in comparison with other households

405. Most often the households surveyed maintained that the level of satisfaction of their food requirements was the same as in any average household. However, among the households maintained on unearned income other than pensions only every fifth was of that opinion; the same applied to households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members. Every eleventh household evaluated the level of satisfaction of their food requirements as worse than in an average household, and 4.1 per cent households - as better. The households which evaluated the level of satisfaction of their food requirements as worse than in an average household were mainly households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (24.2 per cent), households maintained on

unearned income other than pensions (22.4 per cent), and mothers raising children (19.4 per cent). The same groups of households also most often evaluated the level of satisfaction of their food requirements as much worse than in an average household (21.1 per cent, 19.4 per cent and 11.5 per cent respectively).

Satisfaction of the requirement for necessities

406. The absolute majority of the surveyed households evaluated as well-satisfied their requirements for bread (95.1 per cent) and other grain products (81.0 per cent), potatoes (94.7 per cent), sugar (86.0 per cent), milk and milk drinks (83.2 per cent), eggs (80.5 per cent) and vegetable fats (76.5 per cent). Most households considered as partially satisfied their requirements for meat products (55.6 per cent), meat and poultry (54.2 per cent), giblets (40.4 per cent), fish and fish products (53.3 per cent) and fruit and fruit products (50.8 per cent). Households maintained on unearned income other than pensions most often expressed the opinion that their requirements were completely unsatisfied for mineral water and other non-alcoholic drinks (27.6 per cent), confectionery products (24.6 per cent), fruit and fruit products (22.4 per cent), fish and fish products (22.4 per cent), meat products (21.6 per cent), meat and poultry (20.9 per cent) and butter (19.4 per cent).

407. Compared to 1992 there was a decrease in consumption of meat products (51.8 per cent), meat and poultry (49.6 per cent), fish and fish products (46.1 per cent), confectionery products (44.4 per cent), fruit and fruit products (39.9 per cent) and butter (33.5 per cent). Most of all it was the households maintained on unearned income other than pensions that consumed less food than in the preceding year, and in particular less meat products (72.4 per cent), meat and poultry (68.7 per cent), fish and fish products (61.9 per cent), confectionery products (61.2 per cent), fruit and fruit products (60.4 per cent), hard cheese and cottage cheese (56.7 per cent), butter (48.5 per cent), mineral water and other non-alcoholic drinks (47.8 per cent) and vegetables and fruit (47.0 per cent).

Shortage of food

408. More than half of the households surveyed had experienced little shortage of food (53.6 per cent), 27.8 per cent of households had definitely not experienced shortage of food, and 11.8 per cent had experienced shortage of food.

409. The households reporting some experience of shortage of food were those with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (37.9 per cent), households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (36.6 per cent), married couples raising four or more children (23.3 per cent), and mothers raising children (19.4 per cent). Those that reported having definitely experienced shortage of food were mainly households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (13.7 per cent), and households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (11.9 per cent).

410. Seasonal shortage of food is most of all felt in respect to fruit and fruit products (51.3 per cent), vegetables and vegetable products (38.0 per cent) and, in every fourth household, meat and poultry, meat products and fish and fish products. Here also, most often seasonal shortage of food was experienced in households maintained on unearned income other than pensions.

411. Owing to the great importance of the consumption of milk, cottage cheese and milk drinks, the survey asked whether households had consumed the same quantities, less or more of those products than in the preceding year. More than half of all households stated that consumption had remained the same (58.3 per cent), every fourth said they had consumed less, and 14.3 per cent more. Those reporting less consumption were households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (50.5 per cent), households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (47.0 per cent) and mothers raising children (33.8 per cent).

Evaluation of nourishment level

412. Most households evaluated that their nourishment was at the average level (59.2 per cent), and 22.4 per cent that it was below the average level. The households evaluating their nourishment as below the average level were those maintained on unearned income other than pensions (33.6 per cent), households with unemployed members (32.9 per cent), mothers raising children (30.9 per cent) and married couples raising four or more children (26.2 per cent). Every fourth household maintained on unearned income other than pensions and as many households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members were nourished on an almost poor level. Furthermore, 12.9 per cent of households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members, and every eighth household maintained on unearned income other than pensions were poorly nourished.

413. In most households raising children the parents ate the same as their children (62.4 per cent), but in every third they ate worse than their children. Parents ate worse than their children mainly in households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (50.7 per cent), and in households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (50.0 per cent). This also happens very often with mothers raising children (45.2 per cent) and for over 35 per cent of parents raising three or more children.

Reasons for not having hot meals with meat (or the equivalent)

414. At least once in two days almost half of all households did not eat hot meals with meat (poultry) or fish (47.3 per cent). This happened much more often in households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (70.1 per cent), in households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (69.5 per cent) and in families of mothers raising children (62.6 per cent). More than half the households not eating hot meals with meat or meat equivalents at least once in two days said that the reason for such a situation was that vegetarian meals were cheaper (56.6 per cent). Every fourth household did not consider it necessary

to have hot meals with meat and 18.8 per cent did not have them for other reasons. The opinion that vegetarian meals are cheaper was most often expressed by married couples raising four or more children, and households with unemployed members.

Eating habits

415. Every fourth household had a hot meal with meat/poultry or fish three times a week, every sixth household twice in a week and 13.5 per cent of households every day. In most households adults ate three meals a day (76.1 per cent), and in every fifth, four or more meals. Two meals a day were most often the routine in households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (22.1 per cent), and in households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (20.1 per cent). Children under 15 in most households had four or more meals a day (81.9 per cent); in 17.7 per cent of households they had three meals a day.

Taking packed sandwiches to school

416. In 57.0 per cent of households with children under 15, the children always took sandwiches to school; in 16.7 per cent of households, often and in 7.7 per cent of households, sometimes, whereas in 18.5 per cent of households children do not take sandwiches to school. Out of that number, in 4.8 per cent of households they did not take sandwiches because they had a hot meal at school - this most often happened in families of mothers raising children (13.9 per cent), and in households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (13.9 per cent). Children who did not take sandwiches to school most often came from households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (32.8 per cent) and from households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (27.9 per cent). In a large majority of households children had sandwiches with meat, cheese, fish or egg - products containing protein (90.0 per cent). Such sandwiches are least often taken by children from households with unemployed members and without any working or pension-receiving members (71.4 per cent), from households of pensioners (75.2 per cent) and from households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (75.6 per cent).

Changes in eating habits

417. Half of the households surveyed stated that they had not changed their eating habits compared to the preceding year; 40.2 per cent of households maintained they had changed them partially and only 3.4 per cent said they had changed completely. The largest share of households that had changed their eating habits compared to preceding years was among households maintained on unearned income other than pensions (16.4 per cent): it can be expected that the change was for the worse.

Table 36. Households by socio-economic group and possibility of acquiring food

	Total	Households					
		Workers	Farmers	Farm-workers	Pensioners	Self-employed or professional	Maintained on unearned income other than pensions
In total figures							
Total	3 787	1 731	300	246	1 199	177	134
% of total							
We buy food and other articles freely	6.0	6.3	4.0	1.2	5.4	20.9	0.7
Food simply has to be bought, but we consider other expenses more important	10.0	12.0	10.3	7.7	7.5	14.7	3.7
We buy necessary non-food articles limiting our expenses on food	7.5	7.3	8.0	7.7	7.9	7.9	3.7
We buy necessary food and limit expenses on other articles	43.4	49.5	15.0	26.4	46.5	45.2	27.6
In order to buy food we cannot afford anything else	18.6	19.5	3.7	6.9	24.1	5.6	29.9
We borrow money in order to buy necessary food	3.2	3.2	1.0	0.4	3.0	1.1	18.7
In order to buy food we do not make monthly payments (for example, rent)	1.4	1.0	0.3	-	1.5	0.6	12.7
We have basic food from our own farm, and we mainly buy other articles	7.2	0.5	45.3	39.8	2.4	1.1	-
We have basic food from our own farm, but we cannot afford other articles	2.0	0.1	12.0	9.8	0.9	0.6	0.7
Other possibilities	0.7	0.5	0.3	-	0.7	2.3	2.2

Table 37. Households by presence of unemployed, employed and pension-receiving members, and possibility of acquiring food

	Total	Without unemployed family members						With unemployed family members						
		Total	Without working members		With working members			Total	Without working members			With working members		
			Total	Incl. with pensioners	Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners		Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners	Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners
	In absolute figures													
TOTAL	3 787	3 189	934	909	2 255	1 447	808	598	186	95	91	412	297	115
	% of total													
We buy food and other articles freely	6.0	6.8	5.9	5.8	7.1	8.3	5.1	1.8	0.5	-	1.1	2.4	2.7	1.7
Food simply has to be bought, but we consider other expenses more important	10.0	11.0	7.3	7.3	12.5	12.7	12.3	4.5	3.2	3.2	3.3	5.1	5.7	3.5
We buy necessary non-food articles limiting our expenses on food	7.5	7.7	8.5	8.9	7.3	7.3	7.3	6.5	4.3	4.2	4.4	7.5	7.1	8.7
We buy necessary food and limit expenses on other articles	43.4	43.9	47.8	48.2	42.4	44.8	35.0	40.3	28.5	21.1	36.3	45.6	48.1	39.1
In order to buy food we cannot afford anything else	18.6	17.2	24.2	24.2	14.4	14.3	14.5	25.9	33.9	32.6	35.2	22.3	21.5	24.3
We borrow money in order to buy necessary food	3.2	2.4	2.9	2.4	2.2	2.9	0.9	7.9	15.6	20.0	11.0	4.4	5.1	2.6
In order to buy food we do not make monthly payments (for example, rent)	1.4	0.8	1.3	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.4	4.8	10.8	15.8	5.5	2.2	3.0	-
We have basic food from our own farm and we mainly buy other articles	7.2	7.5	1.1	1.1	10.1	5.9	17.7	6.0	1.1	-	2.2	8.3	5.1	16.5
We have basic food from our own farm, but we cannot afford other articles	2.0	2.0	0.4	0.4	2.7	2.3	3.3	1.7	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.9	1.7	2.6
Other possibilities	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.5	1.1	2.1	-	0.2	-	0.9

Table 38. Households by a class of place of residence and possibility of acquiring food

	Total	Towns					
		Total	Thousands of inhabitants				Villages
			200 and more	100-200	20-100	less than 20	
In absolute figures							
Total	3 787	2 507	928	356	748	475	1 280
% of total							
We buy food and other articles freely	6.0	7.5	8.9	6.2	7.0	6.7	3.0
Food simply has to be bought, but we consider other expenses more important	10.0	10.5	10.8	13.5	9.9	8.8	8.9
We buy necessary non-food articles limiting our expenses on food	7.5	7.5	8.1	8.4	7.0	6.5	7.5
We buy necessary food and limit expenses on other articles	43.4	47.7	46.4	43.5	50.1	49.3	34.9
In order to buy food we cannot afford anything else	18.6	20.4	20.0	21.3	21.0	19.4	15.2
We borrow money in order to buy necessary food	3.2	3.2	2.6	3.9	2.5	4.8	3.4
In order to buy food we do not make monthly payments (for example, rent)	1.4	1.9	2.5	2.5	1.7	0.6	0.5
We have basic food from our own farm and we mainly buy other articles	7.2	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.1	2.5	20.1
We have basic food from our own farm, but we cannot afford other articles	2.0	0.1	-	0.3	-	0.4	5.6
Other possibilities	0.7	0.5	0.3	-	0.7	0.8	1.0

Table 39. Households by socio-economic groups and level of satisfaction of food requirements

Level of satisfaction of food requirements	Total	Households					
		Workers'	Farmers'	Farm workers'	Pensioners'	Self-employed or professional	Maintained on unearned income other than pensions
In absolute figures							
Total	3 787	1 731	300	246	1 199	177	134
% of total							
Good	13.1	15.0	15.0	9.8	8.2	35.6	4.5
Quite good	21.7	21.7	27.0	26.4	19.8	32.8	3.7
Not good not bad	38.5	38.8	38.3	44.7	40.1	24.3	28.4
Not too good	19.4	19.2	16.7	17.1	20.9	5.6	35.1
Bad	7.4	5.4	3.0	2.0	10.9	1.7	28.4

Table 40. Households by a type of family and level of satisfaction of food requirements

Level of satisfaction of food requirements	Total	Married couples					A mother with dependent children	Other families
		Without children	With 1 dependant child	With 2 dependant children	With 3 dependant children	With 4 or more dependant children		
In absolute figures								
Total	3 787	671	449	658	237	103	139	1 519
% of total								
Good	13.1	14.9	18.0	15.3	12.7	10.7	6.5	10.7
Quite good	21.7	26.1	27.8	23.9	20.7	14.6	10.1	18.8
Not good not bad	38.5	41.6	33.0	38.0	34.6	39.8	40.3	39.3
Not too good	19.4	12.8	16.5	18.5	22.8	30.1	31.7	21.1
Bad	7.4	4.6	4.7	4.2	9.3	4.9	11.6	10.1

Table 41. Households by unemployed and employed members and those receiving pensions, and by level of satisfaction of food requirements

Level of satisfaction of food requirements	Total	Without unemployed family members						With unemployed family members						
		Total	Without working members		With working members			Total	Without working members			With working members		
			Total	Incl. with pensioners	Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners		Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners	Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners
In absolute figures														
Total	3 787	3 189	934	909	2 255	1 447	808	598	186	95	91	412	297	115
% of total														
Good	13.1	14.4	8.0	7.9	17.0	18.8	13.8	6.2	2.2	3.2	1.1	8.0	8.4	7.0
Quite good	21.7	23.4	20.0	20.2	24.8	25.4	23.8	12.5	6.5	2.1	11.0	15.3	16.5	12.2
Not good not bad	38.5	38.7	40.8	41.3	37.8	35.9	41.3	37.5	28.5	28.4	28.6	41.5	41.1	42.6
Not too good	19.4	17.6	20.0	19.9	16.6	16.0	17.7	28.6	34.4	35.8	33.0	26.0	25.3	27.8
Bad	7.4	5.9	11.1	10.6	3.7	3.9	3.4	15.2	28.5	30.5	26.4	9.2	8.8	10.4

Table 42. Households by place of residence and level of satisfaction of food requirements

Level of satisfaction of food requirements	Total	Towns					Villages
		Total	Number of inhabitants				
			200 000 and more	100 000 - 200 000	20 000 - 100 000	Under 20 000	
In absolute figures							
Total	3 787	2 507	928	356	748	475	1 280
% of total							
Good	13.1	15.0	16.7	13.2	14.4	13.7	9.5
Quite good	21.7	21.4	23.8	17.7	21.9	18.7	22.2
Not good not bad	38.5	36.7	34.4	38.2	35.7	41.7	42.0
Not too good	19.4	19.1	16.9	21.6	21.4	18.1	19.8
Bad	7.4	7.8	8.2	9.2	6.5	7.8	6.6

Table 43. Households by socio-economic group and level of satisfaction of food requirements as compared with previous year

Level of satisfaction of food requirements	Total	Households					
		Workers'	Farmers'	Farm-workers'	Pensioners'	Self-employed or professional	Maintained on unearned income other than pensions
In absolute figures							
Total	3 787	1 731	300	246	1 199	177	134
% of total							
Considerably decreased	21.4	21.4	16.0	16.3	21.7	11.9	53.0
Somewhat decreased	34.5	35.8	28.7	35.0	36.8	20.9	27.6
The same	40.7	39.5	51.3	43.5	39.5	56.5	17.2
Somewhat improved	3.4	3.4	3.7	5.3	1.9	10.7	2.2
Considerably improved	0.1	0.1	0.3	-	0.1	-	-

Table 44. Households by unemployed and employed members and those receiving pensions, and level of satisfaction of food requirements as compared with previous year

Level of satisfaction of food requirements	Total	Without unemployed family members						With unemployed family members						
		Total	Without working members		With working members			Total	Without working members			With working members		
			Total	Incl. with pensioners	Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners		Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners	Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners
	In absolute figures													
Total	3 787	3 189	934	909	2 255	1 447	808	598	186	95	91	412	297	115
	% of total													
Considerably decreased	21.4	18.6	21.4	20.9	17.5	16.9	18.4	36.1	49.5	57.9	40.7	30.1	29.6	31.3
Somewhat decreased	34.5	34.1	35.7	36.2	33.4	33.2	33.8	36.6	31.2	25.3	37.4	39.1	39.7	37.4
The same	40.7	43.6	40.6	40.9	44.8	45.4	43.8	25.3	18.8	15.8	22.0	28.2	28.3	27.8
Somewhat improved	3.4	3.6	2.2	1.9	4.2	4.4	3.7	2.0	0.5	1.1	-	2.7	2.4	3.5
Considerably improved	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	0.7	-

Table 45. Households by place of residence and level of satisfaction of food requirements as compared with previous year

Level of satisfaction of food requirements	Total	Towns					
		Total	Number of inhabitans				Villages
			200 000 and more	100 000 - 200 000	20 000 - 100 000	Under 20 000	
In absolute figures							
Total	3 787	2 507	928	356	748	475	1 280
% of total							
Considerably decreased	21.4	22.5	23.3	19.7	22.5	22.9	19.3
Somewhat decreased	34.5	34.0	31.1	41.3	35.0	32.4	35.5
The same	40.7	40.1	41.9	35.1	38.9	42.3	41.8
Somewhat improved	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.9	3.5	2.3	3.3
Considerably improved	0.1	0.0	-	-	0.1	-	0.2

Table 46. Households by socio-economic group and level of satisfaction of food requirements as compared with other households

Level of satisfaction of food requirements	Total	Households					
		Workers'	Farmers'	Farm-workers'	pensioners'	Self-employed or professional	Maintained on unearned income other than pensions
	In absolute figures						
Total	3 787	1 731	300	246	1 199	177	134
	% of total						
Much below the average	3.7	2.5	1.3	1.6	5.1	0.6	19.4
Worse	9.1	7.7	7.0	4.5	12.0	1.7	22.4
Slightly worse	15.4	13.7	10.3	16.3	19.6	4.0	23.9
The same as in the average household	44.8	47.8	53.7	56.1	39.3	42.4	19.4
Slightly above the average	9.8	10.2	10.0	10.2	8.2	22.6	3.0
Better	4.1	4.3	5.3	1.2	3.0	14.1	0.7
Much above the average	0.9	1.1	-	0.4	0.8	2.3	-
Difficult to say	12.1	12.6	12.3	9.8	12.0	12.4	11.2

Table 47. Households by socio-economic group and degree of satisfaction of requirements for necessities

Satisfaction of requirements for necessities: a full b in part c not satisfied d difficult to say e does not apply		Total	Households					
			Workers'	Farmers'	Farm-workers'	Pensioners'	Self-employed or professional	Maintained on unearned income other than pensions
In absolute figures								
Total		3 787	1 731	300	246	1 199	177	134
% of total								
Bread	a	95.1	96.4	96.7	96.7	93.6	98.3	81.3
	b	4.6	3.5	3.3	2.8	5.8	1.1	18.7
	c	0.1	-	-	-	0.3	0.6	-
	d	0.2	0.1	-	0.4	0.3	-	-
	e	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other grain products	a	81.0	81.2	87.7	88.2	78.5	91.5	95.7
	b	17.6	17.7	12.3	11.4	19.5	6.8	37.3
	c	0.6	0.3	-	-	1.0	0.6	2.2
	d	0.7	0.8	-	0.4	0.8	0.6	-
	e	0.1	-	-	-	0.2	0.6	0.7
Potatoes	a	94.7	95.0	98.0	98.0	93.7	97.7	82.8
	b	4.9	4.6	1.7	2.0	5.8	2.3	17.2
	c	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.2	-	-
	d	0.2	0.2	0.3	-	0.3	-	-
	e	0.0	0.1	-	-	-	-	-
Vegetables and vegetable products	a	65.2	65.3	79.0	76.0	95.5	83.6	41.8
	b	31.2	32.0	19.7	22.8	35.4	15.8	44.8
	c	2.5	1.8	-	0.4	4.0	0.6	9.7
	d	1.0	0.8	1.3	0.8	1.1	-	3.7
	e	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.1	-	-

Table 48/49. Households by socio-economic needs and degree of satisfaction of requirements for necessities

Satisfaction of requirements for necessities: a full b in part c not satisfied d difficult to say e does not apply		Total	Households					
			Workers'	Farmers'	Farm-workers'	Pensioners'	Self-employed or professional	Maintained on unearned income other than pensions
		% of total						
Vegetable fats	a	76.5	80.9	69.7	70.3	73.1	93.2	53.7
	b	21.3	17.6	28.3	27.2	23.9	5.6	41.8
	c	1.0	0.8	0.3	1.2	1.4	-	3.7
	d	0.9	0.6	0.7	1.2	1.3	1.1	0.7
	e	0.3	0.1	1.0	-	0.4	-	-
Butter	a	58.7	61.8	63.3	67.9	52.0	77.4	27.6
	b	26.6	25.4	30.0	24.8	28.6	13.6	37.3
	c	4.9	4.2	2.0	2.4	6.3	-	19.4
	d	1.3	1.0	2.0	1.2	1.7	0.6	2.2
	e	8.4	7.6	2.7	3.7	11.3	8.5	13.4
Fish and products	a	30.2	32.2	23.7	26.0	28.3	54.2	11.2
	b	53.3	53.5	56.7	56.5	53.3	36.7	59.0
	c	11.4	9.0	14.0	14.2	13.5	4.5	22.4
	d	3.5	3.8	4.0	2.8	3.0	3.4	3.7
	e	1.7	1.6	1.7	0.4	1.9	1.1	3.7
Milk and milk drinks	a	83.2	82.6	95.3	93.9	79.2	93.8	67.2
	b	14.4	15.3	3.7	6.1	17.4	5.6	27.6
	c	0.9	0.6	-	-	1.5	-	3.7
	d	0.6	0.7	0.3	-	0.8	-	0.7
	e	0.8	0.8	0.7	-	1.1	0.6	0.7
Hard cheese and cottage cheese	a	59.5	61.3	64.0	65.0	55.9	76.8	26.1
	b	35.5	34.7	32.0	33.3	37.5	21.5	59.0
	c	3.2	2.7	1.0	0.8	4.6	-	12.7
	d	1.2	0.8	2.0	0.8	1.7	1.7	0.7
	e	0.5	0.6	1.0	-	0.3	-	1.5

Table 48/49. Households by socio-economic needs and degree of satisfaction of requirements for necessities (cont.)

Satisfaction of requirements for necessities: a full b in part c not satisfied d difficult to say e does not apply		Total	Households					
			Workers'	Farmers'	Farm-workers'	Pensioners'	Self-employed or professional	Maintained on unearned income other than pensions
		% of total (cont.)						
Fruits and fruit products	a	39.4	40.0	46.3	41.9	35.9	62.1	13.4
	b	50.8	52.3	49.0	51.6	50.1	34.5	61.2
	c	8.5	6.7	2.7	5.3	12.5	2.3	22.4
	d	1.2	0.9	2.0	1.2	1.3	1.1	2.2
	e	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.2	-	0.7
Meat and poultry	a	36.9	36.4	52.3	39.8	31.7	65.0	14.2
	b	54.2	56.2	43.0	56.1	56.0	32.2	61.9
	c	6.9	5.7	2.3	3.3	9.8	1.7	20.9
	d	1.7	1.5	2.3	0.8	2.2	0.6	2.2
	e	0.2	0.2	-	-	0.3	0.6	0.7
Meat products	a	34.8	36.7	40.0	33.7	29.8	61.0	11.9
	b	55.6	55.6	55.7	57.7	57.1	35.6	63.4
	c	7.6	6.2	2.3	6.9	10.5	1.7	21.6
	d	1.7	1.3	2.0	1.6	2.3	1.1	3.0
	e	0.2	0.2	-	-	0.3	0.6	-
Giblets	a	42.5	44.8	41.0	38.6	39.4	62.1	23.1
	b	40.4	39.0	45.7	45.9	41.3	25.4	48.5
	c	4.4	3.2	2.7	5.7	5.8	1.7	11.9
	d	6.0	6.0	9.3	6.5	5.0	5.1	7.5
	e	6.8	7.0	1.3	3.3	8.5	5.6	9.0
Animal fats	a	62.9	65.4	77.0	74.8	54.0	71.2	45.5
	b	23.2	22.1	19.3	22.8	25.4	13.6	39.6
	c	1.4	1.3	0.3	-	2.0	-	3.7
	d	2.9	2.8	1.3	0.8	3.6	2.3	4.5
	e	9.7	8.3	2.0	1.6	15.0	13.0	6.7

Table 50. Households experiencing shortage of food, by socio-economic group

Experiencing shortage of food	Total	Households					
		Workers'	Farmers'	Farm-workers'	Pensioners'	Self-employed or professional	Maintained on unearned income other than pensions
In absolute figures							
Total	3 787	1 731	300	246	1 199	177	134
% of total							
Definitely yes	2.4	1.6	-	0.4	3.6	0.6	11.9
Yes, somewhat	11.8	11.4	7.3	7.7	12.8	3.4	36.6
No, somewhat	53.6	53.4	54.0	65.0	55.0	40.1	39.6
Definitely no	27.8	28.8	34.7	23.6	24.3	53.7	6.0
Difficult to say	4.4	4.9	4.0	3.3	4.3	2.3	6.0

Table 51. Households experiencing shortage of food by unemployed and employed members and those receiving pensions

Experiencing shortage of food	Total	Without unemployed family members						With unemployed family members						
		Total	Without working members		With working members			Total	Without working members			With working members		
			Total	Incl. with pensioners	Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners		Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners	Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners
	In absolute figures													
TOTAL	3 787	3 189	934	909	2 255	1 447	808	598	186	95	91	412	297	115
	% of total													
Definitely yes	2.4	1.7	3.4	3.4	0.9	1.1	0.6	6.0	11.8	3.7	9.9	3.4	3.4	3.5
Yes, somewhat	11.8	9.9	12.1	11.3	9.0	8.9	9.3	21.7	33.9	7.9	29.7	16.3	16.5	15.7
No, somewhat	53.6	54.1	55.9	56.4	53.3	51.5	56.7	50.8	38.2	4.7	41.8	56.6	55.9	58.3
Definitely no	27.8	30.1	24.2	24.3	32.5	34.2	29.6	15.7	8.6	5.3	12.1	18.9	19.9	16.5
Difficult to say	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.1	4.3	3.8	5.7	7.5	8.4	6.6	4.9	4.4	6.1

Table 52. Households experiencing shortage of food, by category of place of residence

Experiencing shortage of food	Total	Towns					
		Total	Number of inhabitants				Villages
			200 000 and more	100 000-200 000	20 000-100 000	Under 20 000	
In absolute figures							
TOTAL	3 787	2 507	928	356	748	475	1 280
% of total							
Definitely yes	2.4	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.1	3.8	1.6
Yes, somewhat	11.8	12.0	12.0	12.6	11.2	12.8	11.4
No, somewhat	53.6	52.1	46.8	55.9	53.7	57.1	56.5
Definitely no	27.8	28.6	33.6	25.3	28.5	21.3	26.4
Difficult to say	4.4	4.6	5.0	3.4	4.4	5.1	4.1

Table 53. Households by unemployed and employed members and those receiving pensions, and by nourishment level

Nourishment level of household	Total	Without unemployed family members						With unemployed family members					
		Total	Without working members		With working members			Total	Without working members			With working members	
			Total	Incl. with pensioners	Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners		Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners	Total	Without pensioners	With pensioners
	In absolute figures													
TOTAL	3 787	3 189	934	909	2 255	1 447	808	598	186	95	91	412	297	115
	% of total													
Very good	4.2	4.6	3.2	3.2	5.1	5.9	3.8	2.3	0.5	-	1.1	3.2	3.0	3.5
Above average	5.5	6.1	3.3	3.2	7.3	8.0	5.9	2.5	1.6	2.1	1.1	2.9	2.7	3.5
Average	59.2	61.8	53.9	54.5	65.1	64.7	65.7	45.3	31.7	26.3	37.4	51.5	52.2	49.6
Below average	22.4	20.5	26.7	27.0	17.9	16.7	20.2	32.9	32.8	32.6	33.0	33.0	32.0	35.7
Rather poor	6.4	5.5	9.1	8.6	4.0	4.2	3.6	11.4	20.4	26.3	14.3	7.3	8.1	5.2
Poor	2.2	1.6	3.9	3.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	5.5	12.9	12.6	13.2	2.2	2.0	2.6

Table 54. Households by category of place of residence and nourishment level

Nourishment level of household	Total	Towns					Villages
		Total	Number of inhabitants				
			200 000 and more	100 000-200 000	20 000-100 000	Under 20 000	
In absolute figures							
TOTAL	3 787	2 507	928	356	748	475	1 280
% of total							
Very good	4.2	4.6	5.0	3.7	4.0	5.7	3.4
Above average	5.5	6.1	6.1	7.3	6.8	4.0	4.5
Average	59.2	58.4	59.5	54.8	58.0	59.4	60.8
Below average	22.4	22.1	20.4	25.3	22.7	22.1	23.1
Rather poor	6.4	6.3	6.5	5.9	6.0	6.5	6.7
Poor	2.2	2.6	2.6	3.1	2.4	2.3	1.5

Reform of the legal basis of housing policy

418. Transformation of the building sector, including housebuilding necessitates first of all a radical restructuring of building and housing policy as a whole. In this connection a package of basic laws was passed in 1994, introducing new legal regulations concerning ownership of real estate, rights and duties of owners and tenants, as well as a new system of calculating rent charges, based on the value of the real estate. With the passing of the new building law and an act on space management, the foundations of housing policy reform have been laid down.

419. The Act on Apartment Ownership passed on 24 June 1994 (Dziennik Ustaw No. 85, Text 388) is the basic act regulating ownership in the apartment sector. With this Act, the principles of separate ownership and co-ownership of apartments have been restored. The Act defines uniformly rules and procedures for separation of ownership of apartments and service areas with no regard to whether the concerned apartments are parts of buildings that belong to the State Treasury, the locality (gmina), other corporate bodies or physical persons.

420. The new Act provides that owners shall cover the full maintenance costs of real estate, proportionate to their share in the co-ownership. In the same proportion, they shall participate in the proceeds from commonly owned real estate. In accordance with the Act, owners of individual apartments form, by legal force, "an apartment community" responsible for the maintenance of the whole property.

421. A necessary condition for the rational management of existing housing resources is a fundamental reform of the house-renting system and a reform of rental charges. This was the main objective of the Act of 2 July 1994 on the renting of dwelling apartments and on housing benefits (Dziennik Ustaw No. 105, Text 509). The Act establishes the conditions for:

Implementation of an active housing policy by the localities (gminas);

Annulment of the special rental procedure (by virtue of an administrative decision) and its transformation into a civil/legal contract;

Protection of tenants against an unreasonable termination of the lease by the owner;

Tightening sanctions against tenants who do not fulfil their basic duties;

Calculating rent charges at a level that ensures coverage of the full maintenance costs of buildings and apartments with a restriction on raising the rent beyond a certain limit in a given time; in respect to rent charges the decision-making authority has been given to localities (gminas);

Introduction of housing benefits as systematic social assistance for poor families not capable of meeting full housing costs. The right applies to families regardless of the form of ownership and management of the buildings in which they live.

422. Social and economic conditions related to the process of transition to a market economy put the State under an obligation to create the possibility of prompt exclusion of institutional housing resources from the State budget, by virtue of a single and definitive act. The method of conducting such operation is defined in the Act on rules of exclusion of institutional dwelling houses from the estates of State-owned establishments. The Act establishes regulations concerning rules and procedures for transferring real estate (dwelling houses) in the possession of State establishments, one-man companies of the State Treasury come into being as a result of transformation of State establishments and are given by the State Treasury to workmen's companies for paid use - on the grounds of regulations on privatization of State establishments. It also provides the possibility for an establishment to make, at a given time, a decision about transferring a building to a locality or other corporate body.

423. In its section relating to housing cooperatives, the Cooperative Law, as amended in 1994, established new conditions for satisfying housing requirements through:

Recognition of a cooperative possession as a private possession;

Providing cooperatives with the right to build and rent apartments;

Allowing corporate bodies the possibility of renting apartments in cooperative buildings which allows for the effective utilization of dwelling apartments that are not readily rented by private individuals;

Allowing individuals to possess two or more private apartments; the previous restriction has been narrowed down to so-called tenement apartments, which were financed to a large extent from public resources.

424. The Act on Town Planning and the Building Law, passed in 1994, has created the basis for rationalizing decision-making procedures in allocating land for building, and also for establishing principles of conduct for running building concerns and managing buildings.

425. The legal and institutional basis for counteracting lawlessness in the building industry has been created, as well as for implementing up-to-date technical building standards.

426. The Act on Certain Forms of Support for Apartment Building, passed on 26 October 1995 by the Parliament of the Republic of Poland has created the legal and organizational basis for an effective system of financing housing through:

Organizing a network of housing savings banks, accumulating the savings of people for housing purposes, and providing credit - the amounts and conditions will strictly depend on the conditions of saving;

Establishing the National Housing Fund as a financial and credit institution, managing resources from the State budget and other income defined in the Act, and giving, for example, preferential credit for the construction of social housing;

Defining legal and organizational conditions for investors in the construction of social housing.

427. The Act on real estate and dispossession of real estate, amended frequently during the period 1990-1994, will be replaced with a new act on real estate which will be presented by the Government to Parliament in 1996. The act will define uniform legal solutions ensuring adaptation of the new rules of real estate economy with the changed situation after four years of reforms.

428. A draft act on renovation and modernization of buildings is now in preparation. The act should regulate the organization and financing of the restructuring of urban areas.

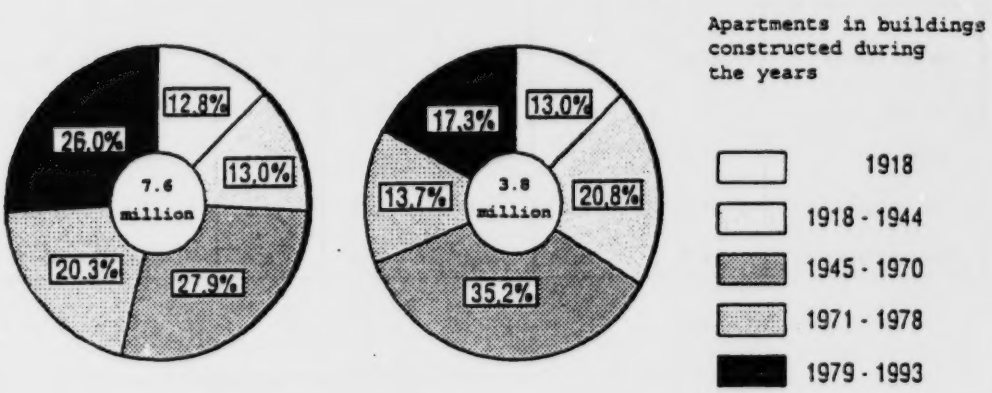
429. Development of the housing sector requires appropriate synchronized development of communal infrastructure. Government projects, now in preparation, for modification of town planning regulations will specify the duties and competence of the gminas, which will enable them to manage effectively the communal economy and will create a system for financing the development of technical infrastructure.

430. The restitution of local self-government and decentralization, as well as the application of market rules in taking economic decisions, establish the right conditions for local communities to create effective individual development policies. This involves opening up development opportunities for small towns. Their development will be closely related to the processes of restructurization in villages and will restore the natural function of small towns, which is to serve the villages - delivering economic, cultural and social services and taking over migrations of people. Communal credit, municipal obligations or cadastral tax are new implements without which this function, as well as the harmonious development of towns, would be impossible.

Table 55. Housing resources occupied in 1994 (estimated data)
(as on 31 December)

	Total	Towns	Villages	Increase up to		
				1980	1990	1993
Apartments (thousands)	11 430.6	7 606.5	3 824.1	1 636.9	408.5	64.7
Rooms (thousands)	39 347.1	25 441.2	13 905.9	8 087.4	1 765.0	309.3
Usable floor area in thousands of sq.m.	689 301	418 740	270 561	155 289	32 716	6 185
Average no. of rooms in apartment	3.44	3.34	3.64	0.25	0.03	0.01
Usable floor area in sq.m.						
Per apartment	60.3	55.1	70.8	5.8	0.7	0.2
Per person	18.2	18.0	18.5	2.8	0.7	0.1
No. of persons per:						
Apartment	3.31	3.05	3.81	*	*	*
Room	0.96	0.91	1.05	*	*	*

Apartments inhabited in 1993 by period of construction
(As of 31 December)



Source: Small Statistical Yearbook, 1995, GUS.

Table 56. Apartments equipped with installations

	1980		1990		1993		1994 a/	
	Towns	Villages	Towns	Villages	Towns	Villages	Towns	Villages
	% of total number of apartments							
Apartments with b/								
Water-supply	87.8	37.4	95.3	67.6	96.2	72.7	96.6	73.8
Toilet	74.5	22.3	86.0	49.4	87.4	54.0	87.8	55.5
Bathroom	71.0	27.1	83.5	54.2	85.1	58.6	85.6	59.7
Gas network	61.2	2.0	71.8	6.3	73.4	7.6	73.9	8.2
Central heating	59.7	18.5	74.4	42.9	76.6	47.0	77.2	48.3

a/ Estimate data.

b/ Data from 1990 also include apartments equipped with installations which are in individual ownership after modernization.

Table 57. Housing resources: cooperative, communal and belonging to establishments

	1988 a/			1993 b/		
	Housing resources in buildings belonging to					
	Housing cooperatives	Community c/	Establishments	Housing cooperatives	Community	Establishments
Total						
Apartments (thousands)	2 605.9	2 077.7	1 355.5	3 078.7	2 032.5	1 412.8
Rooms (thousands)	8 666.8	5 762.7	4 217.1	10 303.9	5 583.8	4 369.1
Usable floor area in m^2	126 997	96 055	68 351	154 121	94 095	72 483
Incl. apartments occupied on the basis of ownership d/						
Apartments (thousands)	410.5	111.1		1 462.3	217.0	92.3
% of total	15.8	3.2		47.5	10.7	6.5
Rooms (thousands)	1 418.4	344.3		4 805.9	664.1	286.8
% of total	16.4	3.4		46.6	11.9	6.6
Usable floor area in th. m^2	21 102	5 943		73 408	11 028	5 006
% of total	16.6	3.6		47.6	11.7	6.9

a/ Occupied housing resources: data of the National Population Census.

b/ Occupied and non-occupied housing resources: as on 31 December.

c/ Before 1989 - of regional State administrative bodies.

d/ In housing cooperatives, on the basis of cooperative ownership.

Table 58. Apartments ready for use

	1981-1990 a/	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Apartments (thousands)						
Total	180.5	134.2	136.8	133.0	94.4	71.6
Towns	134.6	98.8	107.8	106.7	71.9	48.9
Villages	45.9	35.4	29.0	26.3	22.5	22.7
In buildings of:						
Housing cooperatives	89.6	68.4	83.5	84.3	50.0	28.5
Establishments	31.4	15.4	10.7	8.2	6.4	4.5
Community b/	4.0	3.0	2.6	3.6	4.6	2.5
Individuals	55.5	47.4	40.0	36.9	33.4	36.1
Rooms (thousands)						
Total	719.5	567.3	570.5	551.4	406.8	326.1
Towns	511.1	396.3	429.0	422.5	290.6	207.2
Villages	208.4					
In buildings of:		171.0	141.5	128.9	116.2	118.9
Housing cooperatives	318.4	254.6	312.6	315.7	186.4	104.6
Establishments	109.1	54.7	38.0	29.1	23.0	16.6
Community b/	13.1	10.0	7.9	11.4	14.0	6.5
Individuals	278.9	248.0	212.0	195.2	183.4	198.4
Usable floor area (thousand sq. m.)						
Total	12 704	10 365	10 253	9 967	7 658	6 478
Towns	8 534	6 884	7 373	7 329	5 230	3 969
Villages	4 170	3 481	2 880	2 638	2 428	2 509
In buildings of:						
Housing cooperatives	4 959	4 059	5 013	5 137	3 087	1 780
Establishments	1 799	924	642	496	402	298
Community b/	214	169	139	204	237	116
Individuals	5 732	5 213	4 459	4 130	3 932	4 284
Average usable floor area of an apartment (sq. m.)						
Total	70.4	77.2	75.0	75.0	81.1	90.5
Towns	63.4	69.6	68.4	68.7	72.8	81.2
Villages	90.9	98.4	99.2	100.3	107.6	110.4
In buildings of:						
Housing cooperatives	55.4	59.4	60.0	61.0	61.7	62.3
Establishments	57.3	59.9	59.9	60.6	62.8	66.4
Community b/	53.4	56.8	54.1	55.7	51.7	46.9
Individuals	103.2	109.9	111.6	112.0	117.5	118.8

a/ Annual average.
b/ Before 1989 - of regional State administrative bodies.

431. In 1993 apartments for which rent not paid for a period of at least three months amounted to: in housing cooperatives resources - 8.5 per cent (261,800 apartments), in establishment resources - 7.0 per cent (98,800 apartments), in communal resources - 14.3 per cent (290,400 apartments).

Table 59. Occupation of apartments

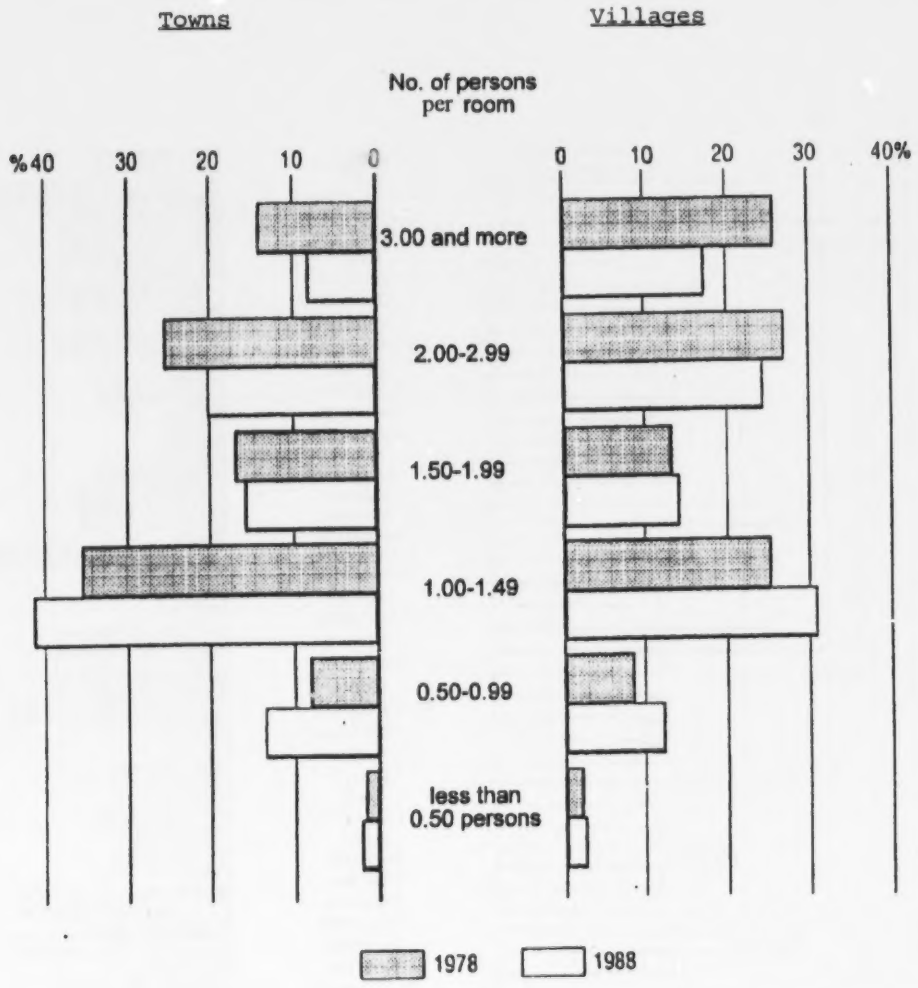
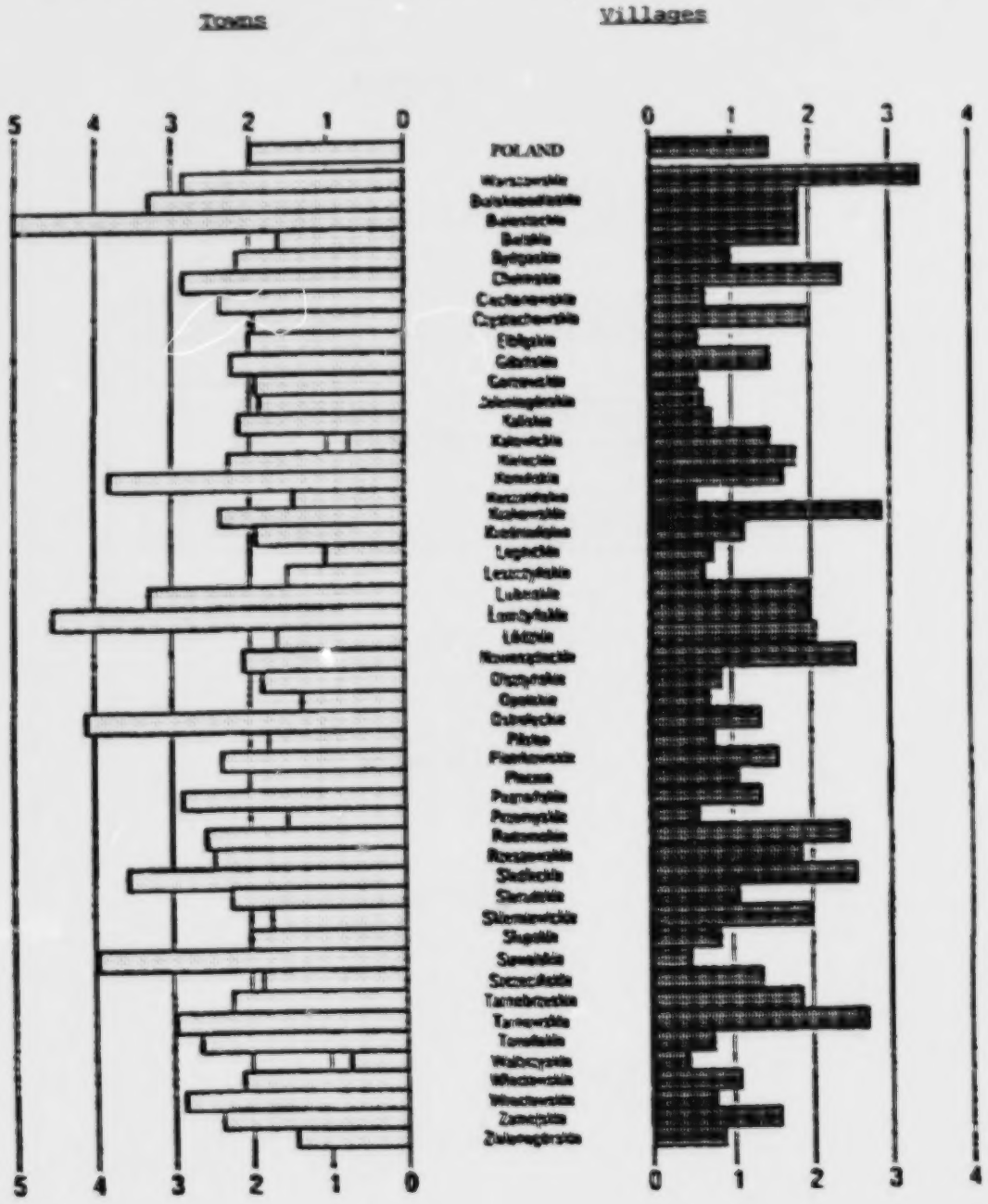


Table 60. Apartments ready for use per 1,000 of the population in 1994



432. In 1994 the average number of apartments ready for use per 1,000 of the population was 1.9. Most of them have been constructed in Białostockie and Łomżyńskie voivodeships (3.9 and 3.0 apartments per 1,000 of the population). The lowest number was in Wałbrzyskie, Katowickie, Legnickie, Leszczyńskie and Przemyskie voivodeships (from 0.6 to 1.0 apartments per 1,000 of the population).

Article 12. The right to health protection

The state of health of the population

433. The state of health of the population can be evaluated by means of indicators commonly used for that purpose, such as: the death rate (including infants) and morbidity. Their level has been affected lately in Poland by the following negative factors:

Deterioration of the situation with respect to disease associated with civilization, particularly circulatory system disease, tumours, poisoning and injuries;

The high rate of untimely deaths (in the age group 45-65), particularly among men;

High mortality of men in all age groups and significant infant mortality;

Unfavourable life expectancy indicators, particularly among men in their working years;

Increase in area-differentiation of morbidity rates.

The most relevant health problems in Poland are described below.

Circulatory system diseases

434. For many years they have been the dominating cause of morbidity and mortality, and are the main cause of death (52.1 per cent of all deaths in 1993, of which, 47.8 per cent among men and 57.0 per cent among women). Over the past 30 years the share of deaths occurring as a result of circulatory diseases has doubled.

435. Every fifth patient suffering from a circulatory disease is hospitalized. In Poland hospital morbidity in this respect is now as follows: 1,995 cases per 100,000 men, 1,797 cases per 100,000 women. The risk of morbidity and of death from circulatory diseases is constantly growing and in the coming years we should expect this tendency to remain unchanged, as a result of ageing of the society, as well as other, extra-demographic, factors (such as stress, unemployment, lack of stability, hard living conditions, improper eating habits, lack of prevention). Circulatory system diseases are the main cause for seeking ambulatory treatment and also a leading cause of sick-leave. In 1993, diseases of the heart, circulatory system and blood vessels were the main cause of disability (29.5 per cent of all cases among non-agricultural workers and 39.5 per cent among farmers). Of the circulatory

diseases the dominant one is heart ischemia (including heart attacks), diseases of the brain vessels and arterial hypertension. A high level of untimely deaths caused by severe heart attacks has been observed among the male population.

436. In Poland almost 3.6 million people are at high risk of dying from circulatory diseases, particularly in ecologically unhealthy areas: six voivodeships (of Wałbrzych, Łódź, Bydgoszcz, Legnica, Skierniewice and Piotrków Trybunalski). Between 92 and 98 per cent of the whole population of those areas is highly at risk from such diseases.

Tumoral diseases

437. Tumoral diseases are the second major cause of mortality and morbidity of men and women. Morbidity rates are growing constantly, for both men and women. Over the past 20 years the morbidity rate for malignant tumours has increased by 60 per cent. The increase was 1.5 times higher among men than among women. In 1989 the morbidity rate among men was 204.6 (per 100,000 people), and in 1992 it had already reached 269.7. For women respectively the figures are: 196.6 and 225.9. Malignant tumours most commonly occurring among men are tumours of the lungs, stomach and prostate gland; among women they are tumours of the urinary-sexual organs, breast and cervix. Out of the total number of new cases only 40 to 50 per cent have the chance of a complete cure after treatment. Mortality rates are at the level of 227.3 per 100,000 inhabitants for men, and 159.5 for women. Mortality is higher in the western part of Poland than in the eastern part. In the western province of Wielkopolska there is a higher risk of death caused by malignant tumours of the breast and cervix among women, and of the prostate gland and testicles among men.

Contagious diseases

438. In 1993, as compared to 1992, the following phenomena have been observed: a high increase in influenza morbidity (over 10 times as high), epidemic inflammation of parotid glands (an increase of 173 per cent), trichinosis (171 per cent), mononucleosis (11 per cent). A relatively high level of morbidity with hepatitis B persists, as well as poisoning with chemical compounds. Over the same period, morbidity with food poisoning and infections, salmonella poisoning and venereal diseases has dropped (from 5,800 cases in 1992 to 4,900 in 1993 - the figures concern initial cases only). The highest morbidity rate with venereal diseases is observed in the following voivodeships: Szczęcin, Olsztyn, Warsaw and Gdańsk. In 1993 the decreasing trend in morbidity with tuberculosis has stopped and in 1993 a slight increase has been observed (700 cases more than previously). The rate is slightly higher in villages (44.8 cases per 100,000 people) than in towns (42.5 per 100,000 people). A significant proportion of the cases is among the 20 to 44 age group, as well as of severe and advanced cases of tuberculosis. Owing to a substantial influx of citizens of Romania and the former Soviet Union over the past few years, there is a probability that the rate will increase. Deaths from tuberculosis account for 47 per cent of all deaths from contagious diseases; and compared with other countries the mortality rate is relatively high: 3.4 deaths per 100,000 people.

Mental illness

439. Mental illness, because of its high incidence and disabling nature, is a major health problem in Poland. In the years 1990-1993 there was a decrease of 11 per cent in the initial hospitalization rate among patients with mental problems, and of 31 per cent among patients with psychosis. There was also a decrease in the morbidity rate with mental handicap I (by 13 per cent in outpatient treatment and by 7 per cent in inpatient treatment). With regard to alcoholism, over the same period there has been an increase in the number of initial treatment cases (by 8 per cent). In the years 1992 and 1993 the suicide rate reached the highest level so far recorded: 14.9 and 14.6 per 100,000 people respectively. Most often the suicides are heavy industry employees, farmers and pensioners.

Health problems of children and youth, military recruits and inhabitants of ecologically endangered areas

440. Health problems affect roughly 40 per cent of school students. However, most of these problems can be eliminated by various forms of corrective treatment. The main health problems of children and youth in Poland are caries (25 to 33 per cent of school students suffer from advanced caries), and sight and posture defects. According to the surveys carried out in the years 1992-1993 among children all over the country, the health of children in all regions - except for the seaside belt - is endangered by iodine deficiency, and in 31 voivodeships (out of 49) children develop goitres to a moderate degree. The physical activity of the young population is not sufficient. It is estimated that only 3 to 5 per cent are highly active, about 25 per cent can be considered to engage in a satisfactory level of physical activity, 60 per cent a low level and 10 to 12 per cent a very low level.

441. Men's health is estimated by the percentage of military recruits (at the age of 19), qualified as fit for military service. Over the period 1989-1993 the percentage has been systematically dropping (85.7 per cent in 1989, 80.5 per cent in 1992, 79.9 per cent in 1993).

442. It is estimated that in Poland about 13.2 million people, 34.6 per cent of the total population, live in ecologically endangered areas, and a significant part of those in an environment of highly toxic pollution, which results in a number of specific diseases and a high mortality level. Selective and partial surveys carried out in ecologically endangered areas in many parts of the country have shown a strong correlation between the state of the environment and the mortality level, particularly with respect to tumoral and circulatory system diseases. About 55 per cent of people living in ecologically endangered areas are at high mortality risk.

443. To sum up, it should be stressed that for a number of years mortality and morbidity from circulatory system diseases, tumours, injuries, poisoning, mental problems and neurosis have been increasing. Morbidity and mortality rates with respect to many diseases are substantially higher in Poland than in other European countries.

National health policy

444. The National Health Programme (Narodowy Program Zdrowia - NPZ), adopted in November 1990, is a document defining the national health policy. In 1993 the programme was amended and, following the example of other modern programmes, it is now based on interdepartmental activities for maintenance and improvement of the health of the society. The main objectives set out in the programme are:

To impede the growing trend in mortality caused by circulatory system diseases, malignant tumours, injuries and poisoning;

To reduce factors threatening to life and health in the prenatal period and to reduce infant mortality;

To reduce intensity and frequency of caries among children and youth;

To reduce the incidence of mental illness and to improve the quality of mental health;

To reduce the incidence of contagious diseases and other diseases which are the result of an improper lifestyle and harmful factors in the living and working environment.

445. In order to implement these objectives, detailed health programmes have been developed. They include: protection against heart disease, combat against tumoral diseases, health care of mother and child, combat against tuberculosis and diabetes, dental care for children and youth of school age, improvement and development of dialysis-therapy, kidney and bone marrow transplantation. In the process of transforming the system in Poland, we have encountered a need for modification of the model of primary health service in place hitherto, which proved too expensive and irrational with respect to management of personnel and equipment and, what is more, inadapted to the assumed state of health of the society. The model stemmed from a concept of environmental medical care and was based on separate medical structures for the living and working environments. The direction of the reforms undertaken in the sphere of primary health care (defined in the "Strategies for Health" programme, which is a development of the governmental programme "Strategy for Poland" of 1993), corresponds with the modern approach to health care adopted by the World Health Organization, particularly in its programme "Health for All by the Year 2000". The reforms also comply with the National Health Programme and the recommendations concerning changes in the health-care system made in January 1994.

446. Primary health care, providing both sick and healthy citizens with health services in the place of their residence, is supposed to be the main link of the health-care system. With a view to implementing primary health-care services, a number of activities have been undertaken in the sphere of organization and the training of medical personnel. The Act of 30 August 1991 on health-care institutions states that the organizational units of primary health care available to the population as a whole are health-care institutions (local clinics), as well as family doctors, paediatricians and other persons practising outside these institutions.

Public health-care institutions can be established by voivodeship governors, the localities (gminas) and communes, and non-public health-care institutions by insurance companies, employing companies, churches, religious unions, companies, associations, foundations and other corporate bodies and physical persons. Organizational units of primary health care are independent units or they can be part of a bigger institution or aggregate, or they exist as private practices (individual, individual practice cooperatives or group practices). Non-public health-care institutions and medical practices can - with the aim of providing insured and other entitled persons with free health services within State guarantees - use public means, on the basis of a contract drawn up with the disposers of public means (there is already a legal regulation of such contracts and many have been signed - Dziennik Ustaw of 1993, No. 76, Text 363). Works are still being carried out on similar contracts and public institutions with independent status, which should lead to an actual equality of rights of all subjects within primary health-care services. Reorganization of primary health care will mean a gradual replacement of local health clinics with more individualized family doctors' surgeries.

447. A system for training such doctors has already been introduced. The foundation of preparing qualified personnel for the tasks and needs of primary health care is the postgraduate training, carried out as a new one-grade specialization in family therapy (equivalent to a two-grade specialization in other fields of medicine). The specialization can be obtained, as in other specializations, through creating separate training posts for residents in appropriate institutions. There is also a possibility to acquire the title of a family doctor through individualized, shortened training for physicians already practising in primary health care. Such training can be undertaken in the so-called regional training centres, which include 11 medical academies and the Medical Centre for Postgraduate Training. The standard State examination rules apply in both instances: residential training, as well as the shortened procedure. In December 1994, the first 118 specialists in family therapy qualified, and will be employed in the national health service. The furnishing of their surgeries with basic diagnostic equipment is being carried out with considerable financial help from the World Bank and the PHARE fund.

448. It is assumed that following decentralization of the health services, management of primary health care will be transferred to the gmina level. By the end of 1994, 1,752 institutions (20 per cent of all clinics) had been transferred under territorial self-governments, as charged or pilot projects.

Health-care expenditure

449. The share of expenditure on health services as a percentage of GDP has been as follows in recent years: 1985 - 3.86; 1986 - 3.94; 1987 - 3.82; 1988 - 3.69; 1989 - 3.39; 1990 - 4.52; 1991 - 4.71; 1992 - 4.94; 1993 - 4.58; 1994 - 4.48. The percentage share of health-care expenditure in the total national budget was: 1980 - 8.2; 1984 - 13.05; 1990 - 13.8; 1991 - 16.1; 1992 - 14.9; 1993 - 14.2; 1994 - 13.8. In addition to taking over health-care tasks, the gminas, since 1991, have been participating in bearing the costs of

health services, particularly hospitals. The share of the gminas in financing health care amounted to: 8.4 per cent of current national expenditures in that field in 1991, 8.8 per cent in 1992 and 8.9 per cent in 1993.

450. Primary health care is not specified in the classification of budget expenditures. The amount of money to be assigned for health care as such is established by the Council of Ministers. The Minister of Health divides the assigned amount between the central level and the budgets of the voivodeship governors. Primary health-care expenditure is specified in the individual budgets of the voivodeship governors.

Infant mortality

451. According to the criteria of the World Health Organization (WHO), infant mortality rate was 17.5 per 1,000 live births in 1992, and 16.2 in 1993. (According to the definition of a live birth which applied in Poland until 1993, the infant mortality rate was 14.3 per 1,000 in 1992 and 13.3 per 1,000 in 1993.) In 1993, for 100,000 live births of each sex (according to the definition of a live birth by the Minister of Health and Social Welfare, applied by the Central Statistical Office) there were 1,485 deaths of boys and 1,174 deaths of girls. In reporting by the Central Statistical Office an infant is considered alive if it shows signs of life and at birth its weight is at least 1,001 grammes, or is at least 601 grammes and lives for 24 hours.

452. If the WHO definition is applied, the mortality rate ranged from 21.5 per 1,000 in the Wałbrzych voivodeship to 12.1 per 1,000 in the Sieradz voivodeship. The most unfavourable situation (apart from in the Wałbrzych voivodeship) was observed in the following voivodeships: Łódź, Wrocław, Szczecin, Bydgoszcz and Toruń. The lowest infant mortality rates were registered in the following voivodeships: Sieradz, Piotrków Trybunalski, Skierniewice, Leszno and Przemyśl.

453. In towns (a criterion of the differentiation of towns from villages is acquirement of city rights), the highest infant mortality in 1993 was registered in the following voivodeships: Włocławek (23.8 per 1,000), Łódź (21.1), Wałbrzych (20.8) and Gorzów (20.3). The lowest was Skierniewice (9.4), Sieradz (11.0), Chełm (11.3) and Tarnów (11.6). In villages, the highest mortality was noted in the voivodeships of: Wałbrzych (23.2), Chełm (22.9), Szczecin (21.5), Elbląg (20.4), Legnica (20.1), and the lowest in: Gdańsk (10.6), Przemyśl (11.3), Piotrków Trybunalski (11.5), Poznań (13.4). There is no relevant data about mortality rates broken down by socio-economic group. A higher rate has been noted among infants born to mothers with a primary education than to those with a university education.

454. Since 1 July 1994 a new definition of the birth and death of an infant 18/ has been applied in Poland, the one recommended by the World Health Organization. In accordance with the definition which was used in Poland until 30 June 1994, in medical practice four categories of birth were distinguished: live, still, unfit for life but showing signs of life, and without signs of life. In the definition that complies with the WHO recommendations there are only two categories: live and still births.

Thereby, what would previously have been considered the birth of an infant unfit for life but showing signs of life, is now considered to be a live birth, and therefore the death of the infant is registered. What would previously have been considered the birth of an infant unfit for life and without signs of life is now registered as a still birth. The change also concerns the weight of infants at birth: the previously used definition allowed only infants with a birth weight of at least 601 g to be included in the statistics; the current definition provides for a weight of about 500 g.

Access to good water

455. Analyses of river water cleanliness in 1993 showed that 18.1 per cent of the length of rivers analysed qualified for category I of cleanliness, 41.8 per cent for category II, and 18.9 per cent for category III. Water that would not meet the standards for cleanliness made up 21.2 per cent of the length of rivers. The share of subsoil waters in the total consumption of water in Poland is 45 per cent and they are used by more than 25 million people, of whom 4 to 5 million obtain water from shallow wells adjacent to their homes which are prone to pollution (about 60 per cent of those examined contained water of a quality classified as either unsafe or bad). According to analyses carried out by the State Sanitary Supervisory Body in 1993 the percentage of installations providing good water was as follows:

	Towns	Villages
Public waterworks	90.1	89.7
Local waterworks	78.9	73.1
Public wells	31.6	35.3
Wells adjacent to institutions	61.1	54.2
Wells adjacent to houses	38.3	34.6

456. The State Sanitary Supervisory Body does not have relevant data concerning the number of people with access to good water.

Access to sewage systems

457. In 1993, 774 out of 860 Polish towns had sewage systems, and 587 of these had sewage purification services; 81.6 per cent of the urban population had access to a sewage system, and 62.2 per cent to sewage purification services. At the moment, out of 40,200 villages in Poland 40 per cent have waterworks; 1,373 sewage purification plants operate in villages, not including ecological cesspools and tanks in individual and state-owned farms. In accordance with the "Introductory project for long-term financing of village infrastructure development", it is estimated that by the year 2010 about 70 per cent of individual farms will have access to waterworks, and about 280,000 purification plants will operate in villages.

Preventive vaccination

458. The percentages for vaccinations, as of 31 December 1993 were as follows:

(i)	BCG vaccination of infants in 1993	95.2
(ii)	Children vaccinated in the second year of life (born in 1992):	
	Diphtheria and tetanus (three doses)	95.1
	Whooping cough (three doses)	94.6
	Poliomyelitis (three doses)	95.0
	measles (one dose)	77.1
(iii)	Vaccinations of girls at the age of 14 (born in 1980)	
	against German measles (one dose)	90.8

There is no town/village breakdown of these statistics owing to the large numbers vaccinated. Initial data for 1994 show that the percentage of persons vaccinated was at the same level as in previous years.

Life expectancy

Table 61 Infant life expectancy

Years	Male			Female		
	Total	Town	Village	Total	Town	Village
1992	66.71	66.59	66.88	75.70	75.37	76.22
1993	67.37	67.35	67.36	76.00	75.73	76.45

459. The life expectancy of male infants increased in 1993 by 0.66 years, compared to 1992, and of female infants by 0.30 years. The year 1993 also witnessed a decrease in the difference between men's and women's life expectancy. The difference in 1993 was 8.63 years in favour of women, whereas in 1992 that figure was 8.99 (8.38 years in towns and 9.09 years in villages).

Access to medical personnel

460. The whole population of Poland has access, within one hour's walk or travel, to trained medical personnel for the treatment of common diseases and injuries, thanks to the large medical infrastructure and availability of first-aid services (ambulance service). The reform of the ambulance services and sanitary transport which is being implemented has shortened transport time in life-threatening situations. It is aimed to cut the number of general teams and increase the number of reanimation and accident teams, which should improve the rescue system in endangering life situations.

461. All women during pregnancy and delivery and in the lying in period, regardless of the entitlements that they may have under the social insurance system, have the right to health services related to pregnancy, delivery and

lying in. The proportion of pregnant women who have access to trained personnel, and of women whose delivery is attended by trained medical personnel is 99 per cent in both groups.

462. The rate of deaths resulting from pregnancy, delivery and puerperal complications in 1993 was 0.2 per 100,000 people (0.3 per 100,000 women, 0.1 in towns and 0.2 in villages).

463. There is no data to break down the figures relating to maternity mortality into occurrence before or after childbirth.

Access of infants to trained care personnel

464. In Polish terminology care personnel are trained personnel providing nursing and psycho-pedagogic care (nurses, teachers, including kindergarten teachers). Taking infants to be children between 0 and 27 days old, we should admit low access of infants to trained care personnel - they would mostly be infants abandoned by their mothers (inmates of orphanages). However, all infants have access to trained care services delivered by nurses and midwives.

Access to health care

465. All citizens of Poland have equal access to health care. However, various socio-economic conditions may have a negative influence on the state of health, as well as bring about delays in effective prevention activities. In our country, there are no social groups whose health situation differs dramatically from that of the rest of society. There are, nonetheless, geographic regions where -mainly due to ecological damage - the state of health of the inhabitants is worse than the average for the country.

466. There are significant variations in mortality in voivodeships. The analysis of standardized mortality indicators for the years 1991-1992 shows the highest level of deaths to be caused by:

Circulatory system diseases in the voivodeships of: Wałbrzych, Łódź, Bydgoszcz (between 590 and 617 deaths per 100,000 people, whereas the country average is 541);

Tumoral diseases in coastal voivodeships, where there is a high risk of death from this cause (over 236 deaths per 100,000 people) 73 per cent of the entire population of Gdańsk voivodeship, 63.5 per cent in Słupsk, 24.7 per cent in Elbląg, 23.4 per cent in Toruń, 22.1 per cent in Koszalin;

Accidents and poisoning in the voivodeships of: Suwałki, Ciechanów, Skierniewice, Jelenia Góra; 19/

Respiratory system diseases in the voivodeships of: Toruń (61 deaths per 100,000 people), Płock and Sieradz (52 deaths in each), Siedlce and Konin (48 deaths in each), Suwałki (47, while the country average is 37).

467. The analysis of mortality for the years 1991-1993 indicates different health problems for inhabitants of various areas, testified to by the territorial differences in mortality level. The factors responsible for such disproportions are still not recognized. The problem of high mortality and over-mortality in specific areas of the country, related to circulatory system diseases, tumoral diseases, injuries and poisoning, require immediate action to be taken with the aim of reducing to a minimum the risks to health resulting from those diseases.

Changes in national policy and legislation

468. During the reporting period no changes in national policy, legislation or practices have been introduced that could possibly negatively affect the health situation of any social group or geographical region of the country.

Efforts taken to improve the health situation

469. Improvement of the health situation of the society is one of the main objectives of the State. Particular endeavours are being undertaken to stop further deterioration of the health situation of the society. The priority objectives set in the National Health Programme, amended in 1993, were to reduce the number of deaths of people below the age of 65, as well as to reduce the level of morbidity and disability, and at the same time to reduce morbidity at a young age.

470. At the moment the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare is realizing the following programmes:

A heart care programme, with the aim of limiting morbidity and mortality due to circulatory system diseases, promoting health and preventing the occurrence of those diseases;

An ambulance service reform programme, with the main objective of shortening the time taken for reanimation teams to arrive at accident sites and in other life threatening situations;

Improving the effectiveness of mother and child health care; the programme includes organizational activities aiming at improving the quality of health services to pregnant women, infants and babies;

Improvement and development of dialysis-therapy and transplantations, aimed at a general increase in accessibility to this form of therapy;

Marrow transplantation programme, with the aim of increasing the number of transplantation centres and the number of transplantations performed;

A combat tuberculosis and diabetes programme, with the aim of improving the equipment of local centres;

A priority tasks in surgery and orthopaedy programme, with the aim of popularizing limb therapy using the Llizarov method and treatment of spinal curvature and burns;

Improvement of dental care among children and youth, directed at prevention of caries and periodontal diseases.

Measures taken to improve the health situation of the society

471. The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare has, within available resources, taken the following action aimed at improving the health situation of the society:

Purchase and distribution among selected centres of Holter apparatus, equipment for strain tests as well as echocardiography apparatus, which has enabled an increased number of cardiology centres to undertake full non-invasive diagnosis;

Purchase of radiological apparatus and cytostatic medicines for local centres, with the aim of improving access to treatment for tumoral diseases;

Purchase of 130 new fully equipped reanimation ambulances and organization of training courses to improve the qualifications of first-aid personnel;

Equipment and necessary drugs have been provided to dialysis centres;

Fissure sealing-wax polymerizing lamps for sealing children's teeth have been purchased within the programme to improve dental care;

More marrow transplantation centres have been established and more transplantations are being performed;

Regional centres have been better equipped with highly specialist apparatus, for realization of the programme to combat tuberculosis and diabetes;

Implants for the treatment of lateral spine curvature have been purchased and expensive procedures in the treatment of burns are being financed.

Realization of health programmes

472. The programmes listed in paragraph 471 above have been implemented for several years. However, owing to the multitude of tasks to be performed, as well as limited resources, their effects are not yet generally perceptible. The time that has passed is too short for the effects of these programmes to show, for example, in a decrease in the morbidity and mortality rates.

473. At the moment, transplantation and dialysis-therapy are available to about 35 per cent of patients needing those types of treatment. A draft Transplantation Act, now under consideration, will allow taking organs for transplantation on a larger scale than so far. In the area of prevention and improving efficiency of the treatment of circulatory system diseases there has been a decrease in the number of:

Invasive diagnostic examinations of coronary vessels;

Surgical treatment of coronary disease;

Operations for extra-systematic circulation diseases and innate cardiac defect;

Echocardiographic examinations.

474. According to estimates of the Cardiology Institute, there are about 1 million people suffering from coronary disease in Poland. Every year about 100,000 people suffer heart attacks, 40 per cent of whom will die within a year. About 3 million people suffer from arterial hypertension, of whom 65,000 will suffer a stroke. Among all patients who suffer a stroke, about 60 per cent die within one month. About 70 per cent of middle-aged people have some kind of lipids distemper, most often raised levels of cholesterol. In the opinion of WHO experts, Poland can be considered one of the countries with the highest indicators for deaths caused by circulatory system diseases. Apart from that, there is not enough pre-hospital assistance in the event of a sudden heart attack, which is essential for saving a patient's life.

475. At the moment Poland has reached independence with regard to supplies of erythrocyte concentrates and blood. The needs for serum-derived products (albumins and immunoglobulins) are still not satisfied. However, thanks to cooperation with Switzerland, some progress has been achieved.

Care of the pregnant woman and the child

476. The decrease in the statistics for artificial abortion is, without doubt, a result of the Anti-Abortion Act, in force in Poland since 15 March 1993. The number of officially registered abortions in 1993 was 1,208. The abortion rate in relation to the number of births in Poland is thus one of the lowest in Europe. That should, in the future, help diminish complications of pregnancy and the proportion of low-weight infants, and should therefore result in a better state of health of the family. The Anti-Abortion Act excludes economic or social reasons for artificial abortions, but specifies certain medical reasons (threat to life or a serious threat to the health of the mother; serious and irreversible damage to the foetus).

477. Care for the pregnant woman and the child is among the crucial tasks set by the Health Department, realized also through the National Health Programme. All pregnant women (regardless of whether they are socially insured or not) are entitled to free medical services delivered by public health care institutions. Despite the regular decrease in infant mortality, it is still high compared to highly developed countries. The National Health Programme assumes the rate will drop to 10 per 1,000 by the year 2000. An intervention programme to reduce the infant mortality rate and maternity mortality rate, is now being prepared and should be implemented in the period 1995-1998. At the same time, another programme for promoting breastfeeding has been implemented

since 1992. Apart from that, a programme for improving prenatal care in Poland was prepared in 1994 and its full implementation should ensure effective care for the pregnant woman and the infant, as well as bring about a decrease in the infant mortality rate.

478. In order to provide all children and youth with access to medical services, since 1992 all of them (including children not entitled to health services through their parents' insurance) are guaranteed free prevention, therapy and rehabilitation services (including therapy in sanatoriums). In order to provide for the healthy development of the child, regular medical examinations are carried out among the growing population, that is to say, children at the ages of 2, 4, 6 and 10, as well as students in the last class of primary and secondary schools.

479. Prophylactic examinations of infants include: measurement of weight and height, head and chest measurements, detection of displasia of hip joints, as well as screen tests (towards detection of phenylketonuria and hypothyreosis). Prophylactic examinations of older children include detection of disorders in physical and psycho-motor development: hearing, sight, defects of posture and other problems.

480. There is a separate system of prophylactic health care for school students. It is provided by a school nurse (a hygienist) employed in every school and a primary health care physician in the place of residence. This type of health care is provided for all students of primary, secondary schools and post-secondary schools. In order to reduce caries and parodontial diseases, since 1991 a programme has been carried out for wax-sealing permanent teeth of children at the ages of six, seven and eight.

Measures taken to improve environmental health

481. In Poland examinations of the health of the environment are performed by the Ministry of Protection of the Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry as well as the State Environment Protection Supervisory Body and the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare through the State Sanitary Supervisory Body. The system of examining water, soil and air pollution is based on a network of sanitation and epidemiology stations (49 at the voivodeship level and 320 local ones) and departmental scientific research institutes. The results of examinations are used by the appropriate organs for taking decisions with a view to improving the situation with respect to human health protection. Reduction of threats to life that result from environmental pollution is one of the priorities in the health policy of Poland, included in the National Health Programme.

482. The most important measures taken by the Government towards improvement of the health of the environment include:

Preparing a draft ordinance by the Minister of Health and Social Welfare concerning the requirements for drinking water quality (adjustment of the present ordinance in line with European Union directives);

The establishment (in 1992 in Sosnowiec) of the Labour Medicine and Environmental Health Institute, operating in cooperation with WHO to evaluate the effects of environmental pollution and to provide health care training;

Monitoring of environmental health threats in the voivodeship of Katowice, used for directing preventive and remedial action;

Implementation of a system for preventing lead poisoning in children in the voivodeships of Katowice and Legnica, based on a system developed by the Centre for Disease Control in the United States of America;

Preparation of a project for state health monitoring, which includes monitoring of environmental health threats and their effects;

Continuation of close cooperation between the State Sanitary Supervisory Body and the State Environmental Protection Supervisory Body including the participation of the former in the realization of state environment monitoring;

Preparation of a draft ordinance by the Minister of Health and Social Welfare concerning permissible concentration and intensity of substances harmful for health in building materials, installations and furnishings in rooms meant for use by people.

483. Measures taken towards improvement of working conditions, prevention of occupational diseases and control of those diseases are mainly adjustments to the directives of the European Union, namely:

Preparing the legal and organizational basis of the chemical security system in Poland;

Introducing a quality control in laboratories examining the working environment, and introducing a system of accreditation;

Establishing a system for measuring exposure of workers to cancer-producing factors;

Preparing a strategic government programme: "Security and protection in the working environment";

Amendment of the Labour Code (sect. X, Occupational safety and health);

Regular information about the occurrence of occupational diseases.

Prevention, control and treatment of epidemic and other diseases

484. The leading role in the sphere of prevention, control and treatment of epidemic diseases is played by the State Sanitary Supervisory Body. One of its main tasks is epidemiological inspection, which means collecting, analysing and disseminating information about the occurrence of contagious

diseases, deaths caused by them, as well as external factors conditioning their spread. The aim of the inspection is to provide the necessary data for undertaking anti-epidemic action and for planning preventive activities.

485. At the local level programmes of activities are prepared by voivodeship sanitary and epidemiology stations. They are based on diagnosis of the local situation, as well as directives from the Public Health Department under the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Central directives on country-wide problems are prepared periodically by the Epidemiology Institute of the National Hygiene Institute, based on the results of inspections undertaken by voivodeship stations.

486. In the period 1992-1994 the main epidemiological problems were blood-derived infections and hospital infections, food poisoning and epidemiological threats from the countries of the former Soviet Union.

487. In order to prevent blood-derived infections (including hepatitis B and AIDS) and hospital infections, immense importance has been attached to sterilization. Test controls of the efficiency of sterilization processes (biological and chemical tests) are performed both periodically by sanitary and epidemiology stations, and continuously by public health care institutions.

488. As a prophylactic action against hepatitis B, vaccination has been extended to:

All public health care employees;

People in the immediate environment of persons who have the disease;

Patients awaiting surgery;

All infants in the 13 voivodeships with the highest morbidity rate for hepatitis B among children.

This is the first stage leading to the introduction of such vaccination all over Poland.

489. As a preventive action against cholera and diphtheria, special sanitary inspection has been introduced at border-crossing stations, and vaccination of high-risk groups (border service, railway employees, health service employees) in the north-eastern voivodeships of Poland is being carried out.

490. The Ministry of Health has central reserves of serum and inoculants intended for use in emergencies, as well as supplies of disinfecting agents (at the Central Base of Anti-Epidemic Reserves).

491. The primary measure for preventing contagious diseases is preventive vaccination. The proportion of vaccinated children in Poland for many years has been at the same very high level, between 95 and 100 per cent depending on the type of vaccination.

Attention and medical services in the event of sickness

492. Almost the whole population of Poland is guaranteed free attention and medical service in the event of sickness. Falling outside entitlement to free services of public health care institutions is about 0.1 per cent of the population - people with no employment, no permanent address and those not registered in labour offices. The right to medical care in Poland is not a citizen's right, but is linked to social insurance or social provision (military service, police, prison service, fire service, prisoners, the registered unemployed, school and university students, combatants) or separate entitlements to medical services (for example, obligatory treatment, prevention and treatment of contagious diseases, tuberculosis, venereal diseases, first aid in the event of an accident or sudden illness in a public place). Access to free services is ensured by the wide network of ambulatory treatment centres, first-aid posts, hospitals, rehabilitation and therapy centres, sanatoriums and nursing homes.

493. Free health services are delivered mainly by public health-care institutions (independent of social insurance institutions). There is a possibility of merging private practices and non-public institutions into the public system, on the basis of a contract with an appropriate state organ or local self-government. The contractor is obliged to deliver free medical services to eligible patients, using public financial means for that purpose. In recent years also the medical infrastructure of cooperatives, foundations and associations, as well as the network of private practices. Such centres enjoy certain rights of public health-care institutions (for instance: the right to issue discount prescriptions or the right of pronouncement about temporary inability for work). They charge for all services delivered, including to patients entitled to free medical treatment.

494. The free services delivered by public health-care institutions include all kinds of services, except:

Services of a non-therapeutic character (for example, plastic surgery performed solely for aesthetic reasons; in vitro insemination);

General medical examination for the driving licence and for drivers, as well as for people intending to work abroad for foreign employers;

Stay in nursing and therapy centres;

Provision of medicines (full-payment or part-payment) by pharmacies;

Partial payment of catering and accommodation costs in health sanatoriums (except for patients whose treatment is closely related to an occupational disease or risk of one, an accident at work or a disease related to the particular character or conditions of work or service).

495. The costs of periodical and control examinations of employees are covered by the employing institutions. Many employing institutions have an industrial health service or a workers' dispensary (or a doctor's surgery). An employee who has lost the capacity to work as a result of an occupational disease or an accident at work, on the way to work or as a result of a

long-lasting illness, is paid sickness benefit in an amount equal to a full wage (100 per cent), compared to the general load of 80 per cent. Pronouncement of an occupational disease and accidents at work are both reasons for employers to pay out a single workman's compensation and higher disability pensions. An employee not fit to work, after the period of sickness benefit, is entitled to rehabilitation benefits, as long as rehabilitation (as well as further therapy) gives hope of regaining working capacity in the future.

496. An important undertaking of the Government, with a view to improving the efficiency of the health service, was the Mental Health Protection Act passed in August 1994. The Act contains provisions ensuring the proper organization of an up-to-date model of psychiatric care. It puts voivodeship governors under an obligation to establish and control the management of mental health care institutions, taking into account the needs of the inhabitants and the social structure of their voivodeships. The Act provides detailed procedures for examination and hospitalization of a patient without his or her approval (making them subject to judicial inspection), and also concerning the employment of direct duress.

Protective measures for the most vulnerable and worse-off groups of society

497. The health protection measures for the most vulnerable and worse-off groups of society include, for example, guaranteed access to free medicines in the event of occurrence of the following diseases: phenyloketonurium, epilepsy, miastenia, mucoviscidosis, diabetes, hypophysical dwarfism in children, celiaklium and wrong intussusception syndrome, neoplasmosis, mental illnesses, tuberculosis, mental handicap with pronounced disability. Another group entitled to free medicines are honorary blood donors and disabled ex-servicemen. In addition, people suffering from chronic diseases are entitled to purchase medicines at a fixed rate (equal to 0.5 per cent of the current minimum wage) on the so-called "complementary drugs registers" (the fixed payment for them is 30 per cent of the actual price of the medicine), and also necessary sanitary supplies.

498. Apart from that, corrections have been made to drugs registers in order to diminish financial charges for the patients with certain diseases. For example, in 1993, anti-diabetes drugs were included in the group of elementary medicines (which means those which can be purchased on lump-sum payment terms). Despite the introduction of co-payment for treatment in sanatoriums, the services remain free for the most needy (victims of accidents at work, persons suffering from occupational diseases, etc.). People who are particularly badly off have been given entitlement to a social welfare benefit to cover the increased costs of therapy and the costs of medicines.

499. In 1993, with respect to the Anti-Abortion Law, a new type of benefit was introduced for pregnant women or women raising children. The condition for receiving the benefit is a family per capita income lower than the lowest pension. In the beginning, such assistance was provided between the fourth month of pregnancy and the sixth month of life of the child; now, after the amendments made in 1994 (Dziennik Ustaw, No. 44, Text 172), it is provided between the eighth month of pregnancy and the second month of life of the child.

500. An insured woman is entitled to: monthly benefits (for herself and each of the children born at her last delivery) equal to 28 per cent of the average wage), a single benefit for the costs of baby linen (equal to 14 per cent of the average wage) and coverage of medical expenses related to her pregnancy, delivery and lying-in. The benefits are paid from social welfare resources. The Anti-Abortion Act puts the State and local government administrative organs under an obligation to provide social, legal and medical care to pregnant women.

Protection of the right to health of the elderly

501. Elderly people have access to free health services mainly on the basis of their pension provisions. People not covered by social insurance may apply for financial assistance to cover their medical expenses under the social welfare scheme (in accordance with an act passed in November 1990). Financial assistance can also be granted to a member of their family, provided that the family member is solely maintained by the person concerned. The assistance covers: out-patient and in-patient health-care services, medicines and dressings, necessary orthopaedic equipment and complementary materials. It should be added that people regularly receiving social welfare benefits also enjoy the right to free medical services.

502. On account of the increasing costs of medicines, a new so-called "intentional benefit" for medicines has been introduced and is paid from social welfare. Applications for it can be made by people whose per capita family income is not higher than 150 per cent of the lowest old-age pension, when expenditure on medicines amounts to more than 5 per cent of the family's income. For people working in agriculture, the conditions are as follows: per capita family income not higher than the proceeds from 2 hectares, and on expenditure medicines exceeding the proceeds from 0.3 hectares. The organs of social welfare will pay, when all the conditions are satisfied, the difference between the amount spent on medicines and sanitary articles and an amount depending on the income of the person concerned.

503. Payment for accommodation and board in sanatoriums (medical services are free) is dependant on the time of the stay (higher charges during the summer season) and the standard of accommodation (single rooms are more expensive).

504. In addition, elderly people aged 75 and over (as well as persons in disabled group I), are entitled to a nursing benefit equal to 10 per cent of the average wage for the preceding three months. For disabled ex-servicemen, the amount of this benefit is greater.

Decentralization of primary health care

505. An act of 1990 20/ and an ordinance of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of 1993 21/ established the possibility of transferring tasks relating to the provision of health care to local government, particularly in the area of primary health care. By the end of 1994, 1,752 health-care institutions had been transferred to local government management, including 897 dispensaries (about 20 per cent of the total number) and 526 village clinics. The effects of these changes include:

Better possibilities to adjust the quality and quantity of health services provided to the actual needs of the local population;

Better recognition of the health needs of the local population;

Financial savings through more rational management by local government;

More effective social control over the functions of health-care institutions;

Reorganization of health care.

The positive experience of gminas that have taken over primary health-care management from voivodeship governments, on the basis of payment for services provided, confirm the correctness of the principle of decentralization.

Training concerning prevailing health problems

506. The measures taken to provide such education include:

Reinforcement of the scientific and didactic basis for the needs of common health education and promotion of health,

Introduction of training about new techniques applied in health education for health-care institution personnel responsible for popularizing health education,

Extension of the substantive and financial assistance provided by the Health Department for the benefit of local communities and non-governmental organizations,

Implementation of international programmes: "Healthy town" and "School promoting health",

Modification of the methods of financing educational and health-promotion activities towards better utilization of extrabudgetary resources.

International assistance

507. The restructuring of the health-care system in Poland is being undertaken on the basis of a loan from the World Bank and a European Union PHARE grant. The funds from the World Bank are serving to create three health consortia, in Ciechanów, Pomorze and Wielkopolska, and the PHARE funds will support the development of primary health care, particularly training of family doctors and equipping of their surgeries.

508. The project funded by the World Bank is not limited to investments in the consortia, but also includes the development of a health-care information system, as well as a programme of education and training concerning the health-care system.

509. The PHARE project, which supplements the activities of the Health and Social Welfare Department for the systematic reform of health care in Poland, includes:

Assistance in preparing and implementing strategies of systematic changes within primary health care in Poland,

Preparing teaching personnel for the needs of family medicine,

Creating training centres for the needs of family medicine and furnishing them with necessary equipment,

Training auxiliary medical personnel which together with a doctor will make a team of primary health care,

Reinforcement of management skills within the health-care system.

In 1994 the PHARE programme activities included: large-scale purchase of computers and other teaching materials for regional training centres, training in family medicine and equipment of family doctors' surgeries. The purchasing was made at international auction in accordance with European Commission procedures.

Legal acts

510. The following legislation is relevant to the implementation of article 12:

The Act of 28 March 1933 on social insurance (Dziennik Ustaw No. 51, Text 396, with amendments);

The Act of 30 August 1991 on health-care institutions (Dziennik Ustaw No. 91, Text 422, with amendments);

The Act of 17 May 1990 on distribution of tasks and authority, in particular acts between gmina organs and state administrative organs, and on modifications of certain acts (Dziennik Ustaw No. 25, Text 198, with amendments);

The Act of 25 November 1986 on organization and financing of social insurance (Dziennik Ustaw No. 25, Text 137), with amendments;

The Act of 29 November on social assistance (Dziennik Ustaw No. 13, Text 60);

The Act of 19 August 1994 on protection of mental health (Dziennik Ustaw No. 111, Text 535);

The Order of the Minister of Health and Social Welfare of 5 August 1993 on the general conditions, procedures for entering into and determining contracts concerning the delivery of health services, and on procedures for calculating and settling fees for such services (Dziennik Ustaw No. 76, Text 363).

Article 13. The right to education

Primary education

511. In accordance with the Act of 7 September 1991 concerning the education system, education at the basic level is provided by:

Kindergartens organized for children between 3 and 6 years of age;

Public, free and obligatory primary schools.

512. In 1992 the process of decentralizing the management of education started. Since 1 January 1992, the management of kindergartens has been the duty of the local authorities. On 1 January 1994, municipal governments began to take over responsibility for primary schools. This process, in accordance with a governmental decision, is supposed to end by 1 January 1996.

513. The network of primary schools consists of:

Public, obligatory primary schools for children between 7 and 15 years of age;

Special primary schools for disabled or chronically ill children;

Art schools at the first level that provide education in arts subjects, as well as general subjects on the primary school curriculum;

Primary schools that prepare for a profession and are organized for children over 15 years old, who have graduated from at least five classes of primary school and do not show any hope of finishing elementary education in the normal time.

The statistical data are presented in table 62 (following para. 552).

514. The obligation to attend school is fulfilled by 99.8 per cent of children in Poland. Out of the 12,000 pupils that do not fulfil that obligation, 7,000 have the obligation postponed beyond the normal time, 3,100 are exempt from the obligation to attend school and 1,900 children (0.04 per cent) who are subject to this obligation fail to fulfil it for no good reason (some of them are Romany children).

Secondary education

515. During the period 1992-1994, general education was further extended at the secondary level. The newly established community and private secondary schools, as well as the organization of general education classes in trade schools, are factors that influenced that process. In 1989, only 22 per cent of young people were studying in general profile secondary schools, which is very different from European standards. In the period 1992-1994 a change in the ratio of trade schools to general secondary schools took place. This is demonstrated by the numbers of pupils admitted to the first classes of post-primary schools. In the school year 1992/93, 42 per cent of primary school graduates were admitted to trade schools, 27 per cent to technical

secondary schools and 26 per cent to general secondary schools. In the following year, 1993/94, as many as 28 per cent of primary school graduates were admitted to general secondary schools.

516. Those changes made it necessary to increase the numbers of class divisions, teachers and classrooms. However, further development is becoming increasingly difficult. Extra-curricular activities are becoming more and more limited and the number of teaching hours devoted to the curriculum is decreasing, which has a negative influence on the performance of the didactic, educational and moral guidance duties of a school. Serious difficulties concerning the employment of sufficient numbers of Western European language teachers also being encountered. The current state of general secondary education is presented in table 62.

517. An important part in the transformation of the secondary education model is being played by non-public schools. They have made a considerable contribution to the development of pedagogical innovations and have actively participated in the project to design new curricula. In the school year 1991/92 there were 158 non-public general secondary schools for young people, the following year there were 225, including those for adults (218 for youth) and in 1994/95 there are 275 of them teaching 27,135 pupils. Non-public schools are fee-paying. The current data are presented in table 64.

518. As far as vocational education is concerned, the Act concerning the educational system has maintained the types of vocational schools that have existed since the 1960s, i.e.:

Trade schools on the basis of primary schools, offering a three-year general and vocational education to the level of qualified workman and the possibility of further education in a secondary school;

Vocational secondary schools on the basis of primary schools, offering a four-year general secondary education, with the possibility of taking the secondary school certificate, and vocational education to the level of skilled worker;

Technical, general and other secondary schools on the basis of primary schools offering four or five years of general secondary education, with the possibility of taking the secondary school certificate, and vocational education at the level of the technical secondary school;

Post-secondary schools on the basis of secondary schools, with a two-year cycle (a few have a one-year cycle), offering opportunities to supplement a general education with a vocational one. Language teachers' colleges and teachers' colleges provide courses lasting for three years.

519. Approximately 68 per cent of primary school graduates attend vocational secondary schools every year; approximately 26 per cent of secondary school graduates attend post-secondary vocational schools.

520. All types of vocational schools are generally available to young people of both genders. The education they offer is free (with the exception of a few non-public vocational schools). There were 57,322 pupils studying in such schools in the school year 1994/95.

521. The numerical data for the vocational education system in the years 1992-1994 are as follows:

Number of vocational schools for the young in general:

1992	7,830
1993	8,049
1994 (first three months)	8,165

Number of pupils in vocational schools for the young in general:

1992	1,570,671
1993	1,611,552
1994 (first three months)	1,642,222

522. In the school year 1993/94 out of a total of 607,400 primary school graduates, 239,600 (39.5 per cent) were admitted to trade schools, 31,300 (5.2 per cent) to vocational secondary schools and 140,800 (23.2 per cent) to technical secondary schools and other vocational schools. Most of the vocational schools are managed by school superintendents, who are responsible directly to the Minister of National Education. In accordance with the Act concerning the educational system, art schools are managed by the Minister of Culture and Art, agriculture and food management schools by the Minister of Agriculture and Food Economy, and medical schools by the Minister of Health and Social Welfare. Apart from that, on the basis of the Council of Ministers Ordinance of 18 September 1992 concerning the kinds of schools and institutions within the charge of respective ministers and the duties and rights of those ministers:

Trade and secondary schools offering an education in the professions important for forestry are managed by the Minister for the Protection of Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry, through the agency of the General Director of State Forests;

Trade, vocational secondary and post-secondary schools offering an education in the professions important for railway transport and maritime or inland shipping, as well as the maritime economy, are managed by the Minister of Transport and Maritime Economy;

Vocational secondary schools for social workers, by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy;

Vocational secondary schools for fire-fighters, by the Minister of the Interior through the agency of the Commander-in-Chief of the State Fire Service;

Primary (or equivalently ranked) schools for adults, general secondary schools and trade or vocational secondary schools for people remanded in prisons, by the Minister of Justice;

Vocational secondary schools for Prison Service staff, by the Minister of Justice;

Primary and trade schools for people in young offenders institutions and youth hospices, by the Minister of Justice;

Military secondary schools, by the Minister of National Defence;

Trade, vocational and general secondary schools, as well as vocational training courses for people in vocational rehabilitation centres for the disabled, by the Minister of Health and Social Welfare.

523. Apart from the ministers listed above, vocational state schools can also be managed by physical or legal persons. In the school year 1993/94 legal persons (enterprises) managed 208 schools (trade, vocational secondary, post-secondary), which constituted 2.1 per cent of the existing 9,655 schools.

524. In the school year 1993/94, there were 379 non-public vocational schools (trade, vocational secondary, post-secondary), constituting 3.9 per cent of the total.

Higher education

525. The Act of 12 September 1990 concerning higher education established the general rule that full-time students of state higher education institutions do not pay any fees for their education (unless they repeat their courses because of bad results).

526. In order to ensure general access to higher education, rules enabling students to obtain financial support from the State to cover their expenses during their courses have been adopted in Poland. The right to financial assistance from budget sources is included in the Act concerning higher education.

527. A student can obtain the following forms of support: a social scholarship (grant), a grant for good course results, a Minister's grant for exceptionally good results, partial coverage of the costs of living in a student hall and eating in a student canteen, and a single extraordinary hardship benefit. All these forms of support are non-repayable and the higher education institutions (i.e. the rector together with a students' committee) decide about their allocation. The detailed criteria for obtaining various forms of support depend on the regulations of particular institutions. According to the most recent information, approximately 32 per cent of students live in student halls (which almost equals the number of students whose costs are partially covered) and approximately 14.2 per cent of students eat at student refectories.

528. Projects to amend the support system are currently under consideration. There are plans to introduce, besides the ones that already exist, a new form

of support: student loans. The interest rate would be much lower than the bank rate and it would be repaid after graduation. It is expected that these loans will enable greater numbers of students to obtain financial support and will increase the number of people entering higher education.

Budget payments for education

529. During the period 1992-1994, the percentage share of the state budget for education was:

Expenditure on education

Year	Percentage of State budget
1992	10.39
1993	10.30
1994	11.17

The figures given above reflect the organizational changes introduced in that period. The system of funding educational units was changed at the same time. During the period 1991-1992 some educational tasks were transferred to the responsibility of local authorities and adequate funds for that purpose were moved from the stage budget to their budgets. In addition, during the period 1992-1993 funds for primary schools, for which responsibility was taken over by the local authorities, were transferred within the general subvention and therefore were not included in the expenditure for education. However, in 1994 these funds, in accordance with the Act of 10 December 1993 concerning the funding of local authorities, were again included in the expenditure for education.

530. In assessing the financial situation of the educational system, expenses in this sphere covered by the local authorities from their own profits should not be ignored. Those funds are increasing every year:

Expenditure on higher education

Year	Percentage of State budget
1992	2.65
1993	2.53
1994	2.36

Education for the disabled

531. In order to realize "the right of everyone to education that should lead to full development of personality and human dignity, awareness and strengthening of respect for human rights and basic freedoms" possibilities were created for disabled people to receive an education as well as be provided with suitable skills necessary for normal life and work. It is accepted that education should enable everybody to play an active role in a

free society, as well as increase understanding, tolerance and friendship among pupils. Therefore action is being taken to develop integrated schools, where the education and upbringing of disabled children from their early childhood (from kindergarten) is carried out in full integration with their non-disabled contemporaries. This problem is a very serious one, since (according to recent surveys) approximately 20 per cent of school-age children experience serious health problems that disturb their education. Out of those, 3 per cent are pupils with very serious health problems, who take part in organized forms of special education.

532. The education of disabled children is governed by the Act of 7 September 1991 concerning the education system and Regulation No. 29 of the Minister of National Education, of 4 October 1993, concerning the rules for caring for disabled pupils, their education in widely accessible and integrated public kindergartens and other institutions and the organization of special education. Disabled children between the ages of three and six are offered kindergarten education on equal terms with their non-disabled contemporaries. At the age of six they have the right to one year of kindergarten preparation. On the basis of the above-mentioned Regulation it is possible for children to benefit from kindergarten education up to the age of 10, if they were unable to start their school education at the age of seven because of poor health or the nature of their disability. The educational requirement for a disabled child starts at the age of seven, as for all other children, and lasts until they graduate from primary school, although not longer than until the end of the school year in the calendar year they turn 17. The Regulation creates opportunities for disabled children to continue their primary education until 21 years of age and secondary education until 24. This document gives a very detailed description of action leading to the full integration of disabled children and youth. This includes:

Classes in generally accessible kindergartens and schools;

Schools preparing for a job (in particular for mentally handicapped young people with a slight degree of handicap, as well as for those with a serious associated handicap);

Individual education and guidance organized at the place of residence of a child who, because of locomotory malfunction or a chronic illness cannot attend a kindergarten or school for a prolonged period of time or permanently;

Integrated classes in kindergartens and schools;

Integrated kindergartens and schools.

533. In order to achieve full development and integration with their contemporaries, children and youth covered by this individual education scheme have some of their classes organized for them in kindergartens and schools. Great emphasis is also put on vocational training for disabled youth. In this sphere their practical preparation for a vocational activity taking place in the workshops of special and easily accessible trade schools, as well as in various institutions (from protected workshops to disabled people's cooperatives to common production plants) is very important. The vocational

training for disabled pupils is supposed to enable them to acquire vocational skills suited to their physical and mental abilities and to specialize in areas in demand on the labour market. Candidates who can present a statement of qualification from a public psychological and pedagogical advisory centre have an advantage over other candidates with regard to being admitted to trade schools and secondary schools, after they pass the entrance examination. Disabled pupils are, in some cases, offered an opportunity to take their secondary school certificate examination (both written and oral) in a secluded room or at home in a way suited to their speaking, writing or locomotive abilities.

534. The transport problems that disabled pupils encounter are added to by the fact that the network of special schools is not very dense. These problems are compensated for by free access to public transport between their place of residence and the kindergarten, school, care or guidance institution, or health or physical rehabilitation centre. The right to free transport applies to the parents (guardians) of disabled pupils as well. In addition, parents of children staying in special teaching and guidance institutions only pay part of the costs involved. Disabled pupils covered by the special education scheme are provided with free textbooks. They also have the right to financial subsidies.

535. Legal regulations for the rehabilitation and guidance of seriously mentally handicapped children and youth are currently being drafted. The numerical data concerning special schools are presented in table 63.

Teaching of native languages for children and youth belonging to national minorities, as a part of primary and secondary education

536. The policy of the Government of Poland concerning national minorities in the sphere of education is to enable children and youth belonging to those minorities to study in a way that sustains their national, ethnic and linguistic identity.

537. The possibility to choose the form of teaching with respect to a national minority language, as well as the history, culture and geography of the country from which the minority originates is regulated by the above-mentioned Act concerning the educational system and the Order of the Minister of National Education of 24 March 1992, which obliges school management to cooperate with social and cultural organizations of minorities while performing constitutionally imposed tasks. The above-mentioned documents provide for full access to all forms of education in the language of the national minorities. This education is compulsory and free.

538. The institutions that manage the schools are obliged to ensure the fulfilment of the educational rights of minorities at the schools: through the use of their language as the language of instruction, through additional teaching of the minority language, or in bilingual schools. Such teaching is organized at the request of the parents, or, in secondary schools, the pupils themselves. The kindergarten divisions are organized for national minority children on the same basis.

539. The number of schools for national minorities and pupils receiving their education in their language is systematically increasing. Classes in which teaching is conducted in a national minority language can be organized for groups as small as 7 pupils in primary schools and 14 in secondary schools. Schools in which a national minority language is used as a language of instruction issue bilingual certificates. Textbooks for learning the national minority languages are provided free to pupils. In order to ensure full respect of the educational rights of minorities, to avoid infringing the law and to ensure a high standard of education there are special plenipotentiaries for minority education in school superintendents' offices. The religious rights of minorities are regulated by separate rules.

540. Polish educational law creates the conditions for cooperation of school management institutions with social and cultural organizations of the minorities. One of the forms such cooperation takes is the participation of those societies in the drafting of documents that regulate the realization of the educational rights of minorities, as well as in the design and assessment of curricula for subjects that are of specific interest to a particular minority. They also help to choose the authors of textbooks, as well as the teachers and their training.

541. Teaching of their native languages, as well as geography and history, for the German, Byelorussian, Ukrainian, Lithuanian, Slovak, Romany and, recently, Kashubian and Jewish national minorities is carried out in Poland. Some of those minorities have started to realize their educational rights only recently (the German minority in 1991, after the ratification of The Good Neighbourhood and Friendly Cooperation Treaty with Germany; the Romany minority, as a pilot experiment, since 1992; the Jewish minority since 1994).

542. The current state of national minority education is demonstrated in table 65.

Action leading to improvement of the educational situation in Poland

543. The Government started to implement the "Good and modern school - continuation of educational transformations" programme in 1993. This programme includes State guarantees in the area of education and care of pupils, the direction of changes in the curriculum, legislation, the education management and funding system, as well as the legal status of teachers. The aim of those undertakings is to ensure wide access to educational services for children and youth; the possibility for young people with appropriate abilities and aspirations to receive secondary and higher education; a prompt reaction to the transformations in society, as well as to social and economic needs (amongst others, the needs of the labour market). The programme ensures the subjectivity of pupils and teachers, the important participation of parents in the shaping of teaching and guidance processes and educational opportunities for disabled children and youth, or those in need of special care.

544. Work on the preparation of alternative curricula is continuing. The basis of the programme established centrally by the Ministry of National Education should in future be documents shaping the general educational policy. The basis of the new programme has been in preparation since 1992. At the same time, the Minister of National Education issued a regulation of 2 June 1993 concerning the rules and conditions for carrying out innovational and experimental activity by schools and public institutions, introducing decentralization of decision-making in the area of realization of the teacher-as-author curricula (the decision is now made by teachers' councils in schools). This idea resulted in a much more active programme of initiatives by teachers.

545. Tasks in the area of general education are systematically being widened. In the period 1992-1994 the following programmes were introduced:

Pro-health education, on the basis of the National Health Protection Programme and the Act concerning the prevention of drug abuse;

Ecological education, on the basis of the Act concerning the protection of nature;

Sexual education, on the basis of the Act concerning family planning, the protection of the human foetus and the conditions of permissibility of abortion;

Traffic education, on the basis of guidance from the Road Safety Council at the Ministers Council Office (URM), resulting from a United Nations and World Bank recommendation.

546. In the sphere of activities to increase teaching efficiency, projects for a new marking and State examination system, including rules for carrying out the secondary school certificate examination according to given, equal criteria and rules throughout the country, are under way. The necessity to introduce comparability of results of education and certificates, and the obligatory standardization of general education was articulated, together with decisions concerning the introduction of a wide choice of programmes and the development of school autonomy. At the end of 1993, in cooperation with the European Union Support programme and PHARE an expert report entitled "An introductory study of the national marking system in Polish post-primary education" was compiled as the starting point for reform.

The conditions of work for teaching staff

547. A decrease in funds for education and the introduction of an adjustment programme in 1991 had a negative impact on the financial situation of teachers and schools. It is only partially compensated for by opportunities for earning extra income by undertaking non-obligatory tasks and teaching paid-for courses.

548. A comparison of salaries, in the manufacturing sector, the national budget, education and higher education from 1988 to 1994 is presented in table 66. As that table demonstrates, the wages of teachers in different years were relatively smaller, and since the beginning of 1990 have shown a decreasing trend compared to wages in the production sector and, indirectly, the financial sector as well.

549. Apart from wages, the following factors influence the conditions of work of teaching staff:

(i) The obligatory number of teaching hours, which is:

18 hours a week for primary and secondary school teachers, as well as for teachers of theoretical subjects in trade schools;

22 hours a week for practical vocational training teachers in all types of schools;

30 hours, for teacher-librarians in school libraries;

30 hours for pupils' hostel and dormitory tutors;

24 hours for tutors in special institutions, special school common rooms and care-taking tutors;

20 hours for psychological and pedagogical advisory centre teachers;

12 hours for language school teachers.

(ii) Social rights, which include:

Separate rules for creating social benefit funds in institutions (a more advantageous calculation rate);

The assurance of budget funds for health care;

The opportunity to take time off in order to restore health and recuperate in a sanatorium;

Additional rights of teachers who live in villages and towns of up to 5,000 inhabitants (the right to accommodation within the premises of their work place, a partial refund of the administration charge and flat maintenance costs, the right to use part of the school grounds for private purposes, the refund of costs of transport to a doctor or hospital).

550. A particular privilege of teachers is their holiday allowance, which corresponds with school holidays (two weeks in winter, two months in summer); and amounts to not less than eight weeks. Teachers employed in institutions where school holidays do not apply have a holiday allowance of six weeks.

551. Apart from the above-mentioned privileges, teachers have the right to early retirement on the basis of specific regulations:

Article 88, part 1, of the Teacher's Card: independent of age, after having worked for 30 years, of which 20 as a teacher; or 25 years and 20 as a special school teacher;

The regulations of the Order of the Council of Ministers of 7 February 1993 concerning retirement and the increase of pensions for those employed in difficult conditions or in a post of a specific character: on the basis of a 15-year period of work in a teaching profession, after reaching the age of 55 years and 20 years of employment for women and 60 years of age and 25 years of employment for men.

Legal acts

552. The following legislation is relevant to the implementation of article 13:

The Act of 7 September 1991 concerning the education system (Dziennik Ustaw No. 95, Text 425);

The Act of 12 September 1990 concerning higher education (Dziennik Ustaw No. 65, Text 385);

The Order of the Minister of National Education of 24 March 1992 concerning the organization of education which would sustain the national, ethnic and linguistic identity of pupils belonging to national minorities (Dziennik Ustaw No. 34, Text 150).

Table 62. Primary schools, 1993/1994

Type	Number	Forms	Teachers		Pupils
			Full time	Part time	
Total	19 212	230 478	310 851	40 758	5 178 161
Primary schools	16 621	224 826	304 828	39 149	5 113 733
Including with I-VIII forms	14 283	213 930	291 566	35 250	4 938 933
School branches	2 591	5 652	6 023	1 609	64 428
Towns					
Total	4 930	126 910	174 602	21 918	3 278 525
Primary schools	4 883	126 727	174 404	21 885	3 275 217
Including with I-VIII forms	4 515	123 092	169 846	20 042	3 196 770
School branches	47	183	198	33	3 308
Villages					
Total	14 282	103 568	136 249	18 840	1 899 636
Primary schools	11 738	98 099	130 424	17 264	1 838 516
Including with I-VIII forms	9 768	90 838	121 720	15 208	1 742 163
School branches	2 544	5 469	5 825	1 576	61 120

Table 62. Primary schools, 1993/1994 (continued)

Type	Number	Forms	Teachers		Pupils
			Full time	Part time	
Public schools					
Total	18 946	228 669	308 677	38 267	5 154 878
Primary schools	16 356	223 018	302 655	36 659	5 090 455
Including with I-VIII forms	14 195	213 138	290 628	34 015	4 928 786
School branches	2 590	5 651	6 022	1 608	64 423
Non-public with rights of public schools					
Total	266	1 809	2 184	2 491	23 283
Primary schools	265	1 808	2 183	2 490	23 278
Including with I-VIII forms	88	792	938	1 235	10 147
School branches	1	1	1	1	5
Schools without combined classes	13 201	-	-	-	4 855 873
Schools with combined classes	3 420	-	-	-	257 860

Table 63. Schools, pupils, graduates in school year 1994/1995

Type of school	Total			Schools by type								
				Public			Non-public with rights of public			Non-public		
	Schools	Pupils	Graduates	Schools	Pupils	Graduates	Schools	Pupils	Graduates	Schools	Pupils	Graduates
Primary schools - total	19 174	5 105 768	623 273	18 892	5 079 283	621 899	282	26 485	1 374	0	0	0
Primary schools + branches	19 145	5 098 140	622 607	18 865	5 071 723	621 233	280	26 417	1 374	0	0	0
Primary schools	16 560	5 035 336	622 525	16 281	5 008 928	621 151	279	26 408	1 374	0	0	0
Branches	2 585	62 804	82	2 584	62 795	82	1	9	0	0	0	0
Art schools of first degree of education in the field of general and art subjects	29	7 528	666	27	7 560	666	2	68	0	0	0	0
General secondary schools	1 638	648 573	122 657	1 363	621 715	119 026	254	25 982	3 582	21	876	49
For youth	1 625	648 020	122 549	1 351	621 171	118 918	253	25 973	3 582	21	876	49
For youth - special	13	553	108	12	544	108	1	9	0	0	0	0
Vocational schools a/	8 088	1 634 307	401 882	7 803	1 608 656	396 239	172	18 725	4 306	113	6 916	1 337
Basic schools a/	2 669	745 771	235 058	2 630	739 518	234 408	30	5 756	562	9	497	88
For youth	2 385	719 269	227 519	2 349	713 099	225 919	28	5 680	512	8	490	88
For youth - special	284	26 502	7 539	281	26 419	7 489	2	76	50	1	7	0
Secondary schools a/	4 554	804 080	137 827	4 486	800 017	137 699	50	3 391	128	18	672	0
For youth	4 475	792 118	135 511	4 411	788 200	135 390	46	3 246	121	18	672	0
On the programme basis of:												
Primary school	3 555	718 460	116 522	3 505	715 288	116 418	37	2 701	104	13	471	0
Basic school	919	73 629	18 964	905	72 883	18 947	9	545	17	5	201	0
Form II of secondary general school	1	29	25	1	29	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
Art schools of II grade	139	18 792	2 934	132	18 629	2 934	4	104	0	3	59	0
Incl. schools educating in general and art subjects	62	10 877	2 117	61	10 845	2 117	1	32	0	0	0	0
For youth - special	17	1 085	199	14	972	192	3	113	7	0	0	0
On the programme basis of:												
Primary school	13	864	140	10	751	133	3	113	7	0	0	0
Basic school	4	221	59	4	221	59	0	0	0	0	0	0
Post-secondary schools	865	84 456	28 997	687	69 131	24 132	92	9 578	3 616	86	5 747	1 249
In day system	861	84 030	28 891	686	69 023	24 090	89	9 260	3 552	86	5 747	1 249
Special - in day system	4	426	106	1	108	42	3	318	64	0	0	0

a/ Art schools of II grade have been included, which provide education in both general secondary and art subjects.

Table 64. Non-public schools (1994/1995)

Voivodeship	Primary schools		General secondary schools		Vocational schools	
	No. of schools	No. of pupils	No. of schools	No. of pupils	No. of schools	No. of pupils
St. Warszawskie	75	11 099	59	5 045	66	10 032
Bialskopodlaskie	1	31	0	0	2	48
Białostockie	15	1 093	5	405	20	1 829
Bielskie	4	356	6	522	22	2 944
Bydgoskie	3	114	13	1 436	11	1 626
Chełmskie	1	201	2	93	1	55
Ciechanowskie	3	221	2	105	5	586
Częstochowskie	4	408	3	377	7	454
Elbląskie	2	145	0	0	0	0
Gdańskie	23	1 975	14	1 288	14	882
Gorzowskie	2	359	3	335	5	326
Jeleniogórskie	3	178	0	0	0	0
Kaliskie	2	34	5	418	0	0
Katowickie	39	3 546	55	2 738	33	2 902
Kieleckie	4	351	2	175	17	3 904
Konińskie	0	0	0	0	3	292
Koszalińskie	7	705	5	886	7	471
M. Krakowskie	12	1 069	17	1 599	20	1 9*4
Krośnieńskie	1	27	3	200	3	.)
Legnickie	2	127	2	252	7	671
Leszczyńskie	0	0	0	0	5	113
Lubelskie	11	941	15	995	9	1 274
Łomżyńskie	1	61	2	286	12	583
M. Łódzkie	22	2 210	31	1 542	40	1 965
Nowosądeckie	1	62	5	404	13	1 374
Olsztyńskie	6	332	8	504	7	555
Opolskie	3	225	1	165	14	1 083
Ostrołęckie	4	177	3	183	1	62
Pilskie	3	143	2	161	4	900
Piotrkowskie	2	145	3	252	3	333
Płockie	3	83	8	607	29	1 483
Poznańskie	14	1 596	9	1 173	22	2 178
Przemyskie	4	256	1	35	4	186
Radomskie	1	195	4	518	9	997
Rzeszowskie	7	430	1	59	4	789
Siedleckie	4	338	1	26	1	104
Sieradzkie	1	161	2	118	0	0
Skierniewickie	6	353	6	632	14	2 970
Słupskie	2	140	7	756	2	145
Suwalskie	3	195	3	199	12	1 121
Szczecińskie	10	807	29	3 763	44	4 373
Tarnobrzeskie	2	191	2	310	5	646
Tarnowskie	3	331	1	68	0	0
Toruńskie	7	508	3	138	11	762
Wałbrzyskie	5	393	6	271	6	342
Włocławskie	3	229	4	552	10	683
Wrocławskie	8	714	13	3 001	33	2 969
Zamojskie	0	0	1	95	0	0
Zielonogórskie	4	248	3	307	2	156
Total country	343	33 503	370	32 994	559	57 322

School total: 1 272 Pupils total: 123 819

Table 65. Full-time special schooling (1992/1993)

	Primary schools	General secondary schools	Basic schools	Second. vocational	Post-secondary
Schools	768	12	270	16	2
Forms	7 179	42	1 721	61	7
Pupils	82 171	437	24 684	874	223
Including girls	32 221	243	10 681	521	104
Full-time teachers	11 737	61	2 303	112	7

Table 66. Teaching of a native language in primary and post-primary schools for children and youth of national minorities in the school year 1994/1995 (on the basis of GUS data)

Language	Level	Educ. instit.	Pupils	Teachers
National minority languages	Total	198	13 391	305
	Primary schools	189	12 000	289
	Post-primary schools	9	1 391	18
	Including: Primary with minority language of instruction	10	723	29
	Primary bilingual school	3	329	15
	Primary with minority language as an additional subject	188	10 553	232
	Sec. general with minority language of instruction	4	512	7
	Sec. general with minority language as an additional subject	3	824	7
	Basic with minority language of instruction	1	30	2
	Inter-school union for primary school pupils	10	395	13
	Inter-school union for post-primary school pupils	1	25	0

Table 66 (continued)

Byelorussian	Total	44	3 897	78
	Primary schools	42	3 110	70
	Post-primary schools	2	787	8
	Including: Primary with minority language as an additional subject	42	3 110	70
	Sec. general with minority language as an additional subject	2	787	8
Lithuanian	Total	12	782	30
	Primary schools total	10	812	28
	Post-primary schools total	2	170	4
	Including: Primary with minority language of instruction	4	192	7
	Primary bilingual school	2	305	13
	Primary with minority language as an additional subject	3	98	5
	Sec. general with minority language of instruction	1	140	2
	Basic with minority language of instruction	1	30	2
	Inter-school union for primary school pupils	1	17	1
Ukrainian	Total	59	1 939	82
	Primary schools total	55	1 542	77
	Post-primary schools total	4	397	5
	Including: Primary with minority language of instruction	4	393	14
	Primary with minority language as an additional subject	42	771	51
	Sec. general with minority language of instruction	3	372	5

Table 66 (continued)

Ukrainian (cont'd)	Inter-school union for primary school pupils	9	378	12
	Inter-school union for post-primary school pupils	1	25	0
German	Total	87	8 151	92
	Primary schools total	87	8 152	92
	Post-primary schools total	0	0	0
	Including: Primary with minority language as an additional subject	87	8 152	92
Slovak	Total	15	597	23
	Primary schools total	14	580	22
	Post-primary schools total	1	37	1
	Including: Primary with minority language of instruction	2	138	8
	Primary with minority language as additional	12	422	14
	Sec. general with minority language as an additional subject	1	37	1
Kashubian	Total	1	24	2
	Primary schools total	1	24	2
	Post-primary schools total	0	0	0
	Including: Primary bilingual school	1	24	2

Table 67. Wages in education (besides higher) and higher education over the period 1988-1994

Year	Average wages		% 3.2	Average wages in education (besides higher)		% 5.2	Average wages in higher education		% 8.2
	In manufacturing sector	Provided for in the national budget (including judges, public prosectors)		Total (Ministry of National Education and other mins. coordinated by this Min.)	Including Teachers		Total	Including Teachers	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1988	56 294 zl	41 324 zl	73.4	36 751 zl	50 160 zl	65.3	43 306 zl	48 826 zl	76.9
1989	212 108 zl	194 371 zl	91.6	186 598 zl	209 314 zl	88.0	215 258 zl	239 492 zl	101.5
1990	1 021.0 th.zl	1 092.4 th.zl	107.0	1 041.1 th.zl	1 167.5 th.zl	192.0	1 177.2 th.zl	1 317.2 th.zl	115.3
1991	1 780.4 th.zl	1 674.3 th.zl	94.0	1 611.0 th.zl	1 779.2 th.zl	90.5	1 792.0 th.zl	2 020.4 th.zl	100.6
1992	2 918.1 th.zl	2 711.4 th.zl	92.9	2 497.9 th.zl	2 774.7 th.zl	85.6	2 955.0 th.zl	3 311.0 th.zl	101.2
1993	4 061.0 th.zl	3 615.3 th.zl	89.0	3 376.6 th.zl	3 739.2 th.zl	83.1	4 077.0 th.zl	4 584.0 th.zl	100.4
1994 plan	Planned performance in enterprise sector 5 435.0 th.zl	4 730.0 th.zl	87.0 79.7	4 314.2 th.zl	4 770.2 th.zl	79.4	4 731.0 th.zl	5 372.0 th.zl	87.0
1994 (Half-year)	Enterprise sector 5 195.0 th.zl	Whole budgetary sphere 4 626.12 th.zl	89.0				Only Min.Nat.Educ. + grant fund 5 142.0 th.zl without grant fund 4 555.0 th.zl No data for 1994 from higher schools of other ministries	No data available	99.0 87.7

Article 14. The right to free primary education

553. The answers to questions concerning the implementation of article 14 have been included in the report under article 13.

Article 15. The right to participation in culture

Institutional infrastructure ensuring society's participation in culture

554. As far as infrastructure is concerned, there are significant differences between cities and villages, as well as between individual regions and voivodeships. The network of facilities is better distributed in the cities and the larger voivodeships (Warsaw, Katowice, Cracow, Łódź voivodeships). There is greater use of cultural institutions in cities, a result of easier access to them and a higher average level of education of city dwellers. Education is the main factor determining the use of traditional institutions promoting artistic culture and the perception of messages transmitted through the audio-visual media.

555. Surveys demonstrate the increasing role of television as a means of transmitting culture and as a medium that enables people to participate in cultural life (81 per cent of people taking part in surveys state that television gives its viewers broad access to culture; only 9 per cent deny this). Cultural reorientation processes involving abandoning the traditional institutional forms of culture and traditional cultural values in favour of an audio-visual culture and a home-centred model of participation are likely to spread.

Public libraries

556. One of the main forms of participation in culture is reading. An important part in its development is played by libraries, whose large stocks and easy availability are more and more important in a situation where book and newspaper prices are increasing.

557. In 1990 the network of public libraries (including affiliated institutions) amounted to 10,269 units. By the end of 1993, 664 of them had closed (6.5 per cent). 22/ The closing of libraries by local administrative bodies particularly affected village communities. During the past year, 165 libraries were closed; however, in five voivodeships a slight increase in the number of libraries was observed. 23/ It is hard to determine the real reasons for closing cultural institutions. Some of the libraries were closed because they were underutilized; however, some were closed automatically without any prior analysis of the situation. The opening hours for some libraries were also shortened, owing to financial problems.

558. Over a three-year period, the number of libraries staffed by volunteers decreased from 17,565 to 5,692. 24/ Although they only had old and rarely updated book collections at their disposal, they still provided an access to books for approximately 15 per cent of Polish readers. At the present time there are no funds available for the production of Polish library buses or the import of foreign buses that are successfully used in all Western countries.

559. In 1994 the public libraries owned more than 136 million books (3 books per citizen). Through purchases and gifts, libraries obtained 4,891,000 books and 179,000 units of audio-visual equipment in 1993 and, respectively,

4,303,000 and 156,000 in 1994. The rate of increase in the size of book collections has slowed down during the past few years owing to financial limitations; the number of new issues bought by libraries has fallen. Elimination of old books from stocks causes large losses in book levels, particularly in the countryside. The established purchase index of 18 volumes per 100 citizens decreased to 7.8 in 1993 and 7.4 in 1994. At the same time, the publishing market has greatly expanded and offers a large selection of books. Owing to book price increases the libraries are spending more money buying relatively fewer books.

560. In 1993 almost 6.7 million readers were registered with libraries (60,000 more than in 1992); in 1994 there were 6.9 million, 220,000 more. This increase applies only to libraries in cities. The number of readers in rural areas decreased by more than 70,000 in 1993 and 28,000 in 1994. A positive phenomenon observed during the past three years is an increase in book loans (also in cities). Results of surveys show a decrease of 9 per cent in the number of people borrowing books.

561. Children and teenagers are of particular concern to libraries. Readers under 15 years of age represent 37 per cent of all readers. Students under 19 years of age make up another large group.

Table 68. Public libraries

Specification	1990	1992	1993	1994
Libraries and affiliated units	10 269	9 770	9 605	9 558
Cities	3 339	3 187	3 122	3 120
Villages	6 930	6 583	6 483	6 438
Library points	17 565	7 351	5 692	4 981
Cities	2 521	1 419	1 210	1 103
Villages	15 044	5 932	4 482	3 878
Book collections (in millions of volumes)	136.6	135.5	135.9	136.2
Readers (in thousands)	7 422.9	6 612.7	6 671.0	6 893.2
Cities	4 614.1	4 433.7	4 567.6	4 818.2
Villages	2 808.8	2 179.0	2 103.4	2 075.0
Loans (in millions of volumes)	155.0	148.6	151.3	156.8
Increase in books (in thousands of volumes)	5 309	5 355	4 891	4 303
Increases in audio-visual sets	-	205	212	156
Book purchases (in volumes per 100 citizens)	10.0	8.9	7.8	7.4

562. Libraries are often the only cultural facilities in rural areas. In addition to lending books they carry out cultural education tasks, as well as organizing amateur artistic events, exhibitions and concerts. They are important centres of scientific information as well, and they organize video cassette and compact disc collections.

563. Many examples of positive changes in libraries can be observed such as new organizational ideas, improvements in the use of computers and computer programmes to rationalize and modernize their work.

Culture clubs, centres, houses and common rooms

564. Cultural activity involves promoting and protecting culture, according to the Act of 25 October 1991 concerning organizing and performing cultural activities. For this purpose culture houses, centres, clubs and common rooms have been established to foster cultural education through art. They also provide proper surroundings for the development of amateur artistic movements and interest in science and art, the development of folk culture, as well as folk and artistic creativity. They are also responsible for recognizing, enforcing and fulfilling cultural needs and interests.

565. In 1993 there were 3,792 cultural houses, centres, clubs and common rooms, 310 fewer than in 1991. Of these, 88 per cent were owned by the public sector and only 12 per cent by the private sector. Most of them were institutions established by local authorities (77.6 per cent in cities and 97.9 per cent in villages). Ninety-four per cent of the 458 institutions run by the private sector were in cities. Most of them were established by local communities. There were 26,230 people employed part time in these places, in addition to a number of full-time staff. Despite the decrease in the number of centres, the number of artistic groups increased from 12,091 to 13,310 during that time. Most of them were instrumental and musical groups (4,442), dance groups (2,934) and theatre groups (2,144). The activities of folk groups (1,968) as well as vocal and choir groups (1,688) continued. The number of members of those groups reached 208,400 people in 1993, of whom 120,600 were children and teenagers. The artistic activity was supervised by 7,200 highly qualified instructors, tutors, choreographers and accompanists (their number decreased compared with previous years).

566. Therapeutic societies (clubs) carried out many activities for the benefit of disabled people and those suffering from social pathologies. Specialist workshops conducted technical, photographic and computer courses for both children and adults.

567. As part of an interdisciplinary programme of cultural education for children and youth, music (61,500), theatre (22,200) and art (34,500) workshops were conducted. Approximately 870,000 children and young people attending school participated.

568. Most cultural institutions are public. The main ones are libraries, culture houses, theatres and museums. The private sector institutions are mainly art galleries and cinemas, as well as television and radio stations.

Regional societies

569. During the past two years we have observed the establishment of many new regional societies, as well as an increase in the activity of social organizations that already existed. In the difficult circumstances of a social and political "transformation period" these societies complement the activity of specialized professional institutions. For the first time in the history of Polish localism, at the Fifth Congress of Regional Cultural Societies in Wrocław (September 1994) the Polish Localism Charter was signed. This document is the constitution of regional movements in Poland. The State Council for Regional Cultural Societies, which represents the interests of approximately 1,300 societies with more than 300,000 members, has applied to the highest constitutional and executive authorities to grant the Charter the status of a State document.

The creation of the proper conditions to ensure wide access to culture

570. The established priorities in the cultural policy of the State are to support writers and publishers and encourage reading, to protect the cultural heritage and to promote cultural education. They involve an obligation to maintain the network of public libraries (State and community owned) in order to ensure access to books for all social groups, as well as the obligation to enable libraries to buy new issues regularly. On the basis of a government resolution of 1994, an additional amount of 20 billion zlotys (approximately $US 1 million) was provided for the purchase of new books for public libraries.

571. Cultural magazines are also supported. They act as transmitters between the creators and receivers of culture and they encourage the intellectual life of local communities and regions. The Ministry of Culture spent approximately 11 billion zlotys for the publication of such magazines in 1994.

572. A pilot experiment involving transferring the management of 89 State-owned cultural institutions to local authorities was carried out in 1993 as part of a programme of decentralization of cultural institutions in order to bring them closer to the needs of local communities. This transformation was achieved without altering either the basic constitutional tasks of the institutions or their staff.

573. Together with union organizations a project of The Citizens' Social Assurance in the Sphere of the Cultural Charter was signed on 20 June 1995. Signing of the Charter will be possible after the establishment of a culture fund, which, in addition to the budget, would be an important source of support for cultural activities and initiatives.

574. A project has been designed to update the Act concerning libraries in order to adjust their organization to take account of the new social and economic situation and the State administrative regime. Expanding the rights of the State Library Council will serve to develop functional connections among various libraries as well as offer possibilities for sponsoring their modernization and other priority tasks.

575. Another project has been prepared concerning legal regulations that would allow the transfer of some State tasks to non-State institutions (the Council of Ministers Order of 15 November 1994, introduced on 1 January 1995). A legal act has great meaning for the support of local activities and new cultural initiatives by the State.

576. A programme called "vanishing professions" has been designed to protect folk culture and folk creativity. The programme, which started in 1993, is supposed to counteract the degradation and ensure the protection of unique areas of folk handicraft (pottery, the blacksmith's craft, weaving, toy-making, plaiting, reconstructing and producing musical instruments used in folk music).

577. The promotion and dissemination of folk culture is carried out in the media. A Radio Centre of Folk Culture has been established. The Ministry of Culture and Art sponsors scientific and popular magazines that deal with topics concerning folk culture such as: Twórczość Ludowa (Folk Creativity), Polska Sztuka Ludowa (Polish Folk Art), Lud (The People) and Literatura Ludowa (Folk Literature).

The protection and presentation of cultural heritage

578. In July 1990 Parliament updated the Act concerning the protection of cultural objects and museums. On this basis the State Service for the Protection of Monuments started its activity in January 1991. One of the main legal and organizational changes introduced later was the establishment of 15 historic monuments by the President of the Republic of Poland (at the proposal of the Minister of Culture and Art). [A draft order concerning the particular protection of historical objects is at the stage of interdisciplinary consultations.] In addition, the acts passed in 1994, i.e. the Building Law, the Space Management Law and the Toll-Motorways Law, contain regulations that provide greater protection than hitherto of cultural objects situated within the area of planned developments. Provisions for the protection of monuments were also contained in the Council of Ministers Orders concerning the establishment of Magórski and Biebrzański National Parks. Towards the end of 1994, the Minister of Culture and Art signed, with the President of the State Treasury Agricultural Agency, an agreement concerning conservation, by the Agency, of the monuments situated on its properties.

579. In the years 1992 and 1993 the voivodeship monument conservators entered 1,396 and 1,450 objects respectively, in the immovable monuments register.

580. The Minister of Culture and Art organized a Baltic Countries Conference to address the increasing theft and smuggling of art objects. The Conference's aim was to adopt common conclusions to stop these phenomena.

581. The question of Polish international cultural contacts in the area of protection of cultural heritage has recently become particularly important.

582. The Old Town in Zamość was placed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1992.

583. During the past few years Poland received financial support from the European Union for the conservation of:

Marienberg Castle in 1992;

The garden of the Royal Castle in Warsaw in 1993;

The Palance Theatre in Lańcut and the Open Theatre in Łazienki Królewskie in 1994.

584. The organization Europa Nostra gave an aware to the Hunters Palace in Antonin, Kalisz voivodeship, in 1993. The Council of Europe gave an award to the Regional Centre of Studies and Protection of Cultural Environment in Szczecin for the design of the project "The spiritual and material heritage of the Cistercians".

585. It should be emphasized that Poland has taken part in the celebration of European Heritage Day annually since 1993.

The legal protection of the freedom of artistic creativity

586. The legal freedom of artistic creativity and protection of its results, as well as the freedom to distribute the results, are regulated in, amongst others, the Act of 4 February 1994 concerning authors' rights and related rights (Dziennik Ustaw No. 24, Text 83 with changes). The level of protection ensured in the Act is in line with current tendencies to offer the widest possible protection to the products of creative thought, or so-called intellectual property. The protection afforded by the Act lasts for a period of 50 years after the author's death. Rigid limitations on the range of so-called obligatory licences and permitted use are intended to protect the author's interests to the greatest possible extent.

Museum management

587. Issues relating to museum management are regulated by the Act of 15 February 1962 concerning the protection of cultural objects and museums (with changes introduced later). The structure of this Act in its current form is the result of the internal structure of the Ministry of Culture and Art that existed when the Act was passed and does not meet the needs of modern Polish museums. A change in the way of thinking about the role of museums has occurred in the meantime. Their range of activity has widened considerably (scientific, educational and creative functions). The current legal regulations do not suit the transformations in the system that have occurred in Poland. Therefore, in 1994 the Ministry drafted a new act concerning museums which solves all the problems concerning the old legal regulations and introduces, amongst other things, new (in the legal sense) provisions concerning the definition of a museum, the supervisory bodies, the Museum Register, the museum director. The project is generally supported in all museum circles.

588. The current museum structure consists of 19 museums under the Ministry of Culture and Art, 6 under other ministries and approximately 150 under voivodeships; approximately 140 are communal museums and more than 70 belong to social organizations, cooperatives, churches, etc. The number of museums

has not changed dramatically in the past few years: there are approximately 570, with some 170 affiliates. A few affiliates were closed and their collections taken by other museums.

589. The main dilemmas of Polish museum management currently are problems concerning the expansion of particular collections, as well as their conservation and protection.

590. In museums, as in other cultural institutions, a slow increase in the frequency of visits (after the collapse in 1990/1991) can be observed. The data concerning this phenomenon is shown in table 69.

Table 69. Frequency of visits to museums

	1992	1993	1994
Museums (with affiliates)	564	567	578
Exhibitions (total)	2 577	2 791	2 953
Incl. temporary	2 080	2 210	2 396
Travelling	497	581	557
Visitors total (in thousands)	14 245	15 629	16 574
Incl. school students	5 900	5 982	6 718
Per 1,000 inhabitants	371	406	430

591. It is worth noting the didactic activities of museums, such as the organization of museum lessons, lectures, concerts and the screening of films about art. The data concerning this kind of activity is presented in the following table.

Table 70. Activity of museums in the field of aesthetic education in 1992-1993

Specification	1992	1993	1994
Museum lessons	26 366	31 233	35 968
Participants	808 397	930 789	995 916
Lectures	6 884	6 827	6 297
Participants	285 194	269 296	386 505
Concerts	2 107	2 401	2 790
Participants	342 451	407 205	427 156
Screening of films about art	18 578	17 768	20 094
Participants	948 928	868 312	968 497

Cinematography

592. Wide participation in the cultural life of the country is achieved through the financial support of some foreign film initiatives that take place in Poland, organized by public as well as private institutions as a result of, inter alia, international agreements, treaties and cultural cooperation programmes. Funds are given every year by the State to cinematography that partially or, in some well-justified cases, totally cover the expenses of promoting Polish film art abroad. Such promotion is carried out through the participation of Polish films and film makers in international film festivals and other international exhibitions. Both State and private film producers, as well as other institutions that promote Polish culture abroad, can apply for these funds with equal rights.

593. The Filmoteka Narodowa (National Film Collection) has a primary role in the protection and presentation of Polish and global cinematic achievements. Filmoteka collects and provides film stocks (the main collection consists of approximately 15,000 titles from all over the world). This collection is used by the film archive cinema "Iluzjon", as well as film societies, universities, cultural centres all around the country, foreign embassies, foreign culture centres in Poland and others. The film collection alo contains historical documents (approximately 20,000 books, magazines, scripts, posters, photographs). The reading room attached to the Filmoteka provides access to these collections.

Protection of authors' rights

594. In order to fulfil every author's right to benefit from the protection of both the material and non-material results of his or her work, an Act was passed on 4 February 1994 concerning authors' rights and related rights (Dziennik Ustaw No. 24 of 1994, Text 83). The Act is supposed to fulfil other cultural needs of society at the same time, as far as possible. In addition, the Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works (Bern Convention) was ratified in 1994.

595. Within the last few years important changes in the functioning of the cultural system have occurred as a result of the transformation of the political and economic systems. Many legal acts were updated or replaced by others that were adapted to the new legal reality.

596. Preparations for the ratification of the International Convention concerning the Protection of Performing Artists, Sound Recording Engineers and Broadcasting Organizations (Bern Convention) are continuing; the obligation to ratify this Convention was imposed on Poland by the European Treaty.

597. Problems concerning the protection of intellectual property are at the moment regulated by the Act of 4 February 1994 concerning authors' rights and related rights. It protects intellectual property of the person (legal and physical), the author, the producer, the publisher and all their legal successors. There are civil as well as legal sanctions for the violation of an author's rights. In accordance with the Act, authors, producers, publishers, etc., both Polish and foreign, are protected on equal and reciprocal terms, i.e. in strict adherence to the rules contained in international conventions. In order to achieve more efficient anti-piracy

protection, Parliament passed the Act concerning cinematography in 1987. According to that Act, the distribution and copying of films is a State concession, granted by the President of the Cinematography Committee. The distribution of "pirate" films will result in the withdrawal of the concession and the institution of legal proceedings by the public prosecutor.

Actions leading to the propagation of science and culture

598. Through the agency of the Cinematography Committee, the State financially supports numerous film festivals, reviews, events and exhibitions all over the country (some of them of an international character). In 1992 18 events were supported with 9,000 million old zlotys; in 1993 35 events were supported with 15,557 million old zlotys; in 1994 17 events were supported with 10,600 million old zlotys.

599. There are many film societies in the country that undertake educational and other activities to promote film knowledge. Special awards for achievements in the area of film culture are granted every year to people who spread film knowledge or organize film events.

600. Basic changes in the political, legal and economic systems and in the social situation are threatening the cinema and a decrease in the number of both cinemas and spectators can be observed. According to the Central Statistical Office (GUS) in 1991 there were 960 cinemas, in 1992 772 cinemas, in 1993 705 cinemas and in 1994 713 cinemas. At the moment cinemas are not all State owned. Some are managed by State film institutions, most by municipal or communal councils, culture centres, the army, etc.; there are also privately managed cinemas.

Table 71. Working cinemas and their users

Cinemas	1991	1992	1993	1994
Active (total)	1 195	933	755	759
Run by State film institutions	71	74	32	36
Rented	251	212	200	197
Franchized	41	20	7	6
Private	57	49	42	47
Run by gminas or town councils, cultural centres and military institutions	774	605	474	473

601. There were 6,379 film societies attached to culture houses, centres and clubs in 1993. The privatization of cinematography that started in 1990 caused considerable changes in the ownership structure of the cinemas that were excluded from the administration of State film institutions, as shown above.

602. In order to establish, propagate and protect the development of Polish films, the Cinematography Committee drafts legislation consistent with the current social and economic situation of the country and offers financial support to various kinds of films. Thus, 23 films were made in 1992, 21 films in 1993 and 21 films in 1994. Thirty-three non-feature films (i.e. animated, educational, documentaries) and 52 film chronicles were made in 1992, 39 non-feature films and 52 film chronicles in 1993 and 31 non-feature films and 52 film chronicles in 1994. Most of the films are made on the basis of co-production with foreign producers or offered services.

603. The films described above are subsidized by the Cinematography Committee.

International contacts in the field of culture and art

604. Polish cinematography uses the available opportunities and concessions that allow it to be incorporated in international structures and film organizations. Since 1992 Poland has taken part in the Council of Europe's film fund "Euroimages" (a fund that supports film co-productions within the European Union and partially finances the distribution of artistic European films). The Cinematography Committee pays membership fees and covers the costs of Polish participation in those international organizations, thereby enabling Polish (private and State) producers and distributors to benefit from grants offered by them.

605. Poland also participates in the Eureka Audiovisual organization attached to the European Union. Participation in this organization enables Polish artists, producers and distributors to become acquainted with particular European cinematography. Participation in Eureka Audiovisual also involved payment of a yearly membership fee by the Cinematography Committee.

606. The Cinematography Committee financially supports from its budget the participation of Polish artists, critics and film experts in international film festivals, symposiums, conferences and seminars. The only factor that limits the financial support offered by the Cinematography Committee for the promotion of films within the country and abroad and for participation in international film organizations is a lack of sufficient means. The financial support offered by the Cinematography Committee for the promotion of Polish film art and the participation of film makers in all sorts of international film events and seminars (as well as foreign events within the country) is of a non-repayable character.

Legislation

607. The following legislation is relevant to the implementation of article 15:

Act of 25 October 1991 concerning organizing and performing cultural activities (Dziennik Ustaw No. 114, Text 493).

Act of 6 April 1981 concerning foundations (Dziennik Ustaw No. 46 of 1991, Text 203).

Act of 7 April 1989 concerning societies (Dziennik Ustaw No. 20, Text 104).

Act of 16 July 1987 concerning cinematography (Dziennik Ustaw No. 22, Text 127).

Act of 4 May 1982 concerning the Office of the Minister of Culture and Arts (Dziennik Ustaw No. 14, Text 112).

Act of 4 February 1994 concerning authors' rights and related rights (Dziennik Ustaw No. 24, Text 83)

Council of Ministers Order of 15 November 1994 concerning the list of State tasks that can be commissioned to non-State units (Dziennik Ustaw No. 131, Text 657).

Notes

1/ The results of the surveys are published in the Central Statistical Office (GUS) series Statistical information and papers, "Employment in the national economy by the level of remuneration for September 1992", for September 1993 and for March 1994.

2/ Source: Statistical Yearbooks of the Central Statistical Office (GUS).

3/ A period of six months of uninterrupted insurance may include a period of employment on the basis of an employment relationship before joining the social insurance scheme in respect of such contract, as well as a period of insurance on the basis of other provisions (if a break between these periods does not exceed three months).

4/ This concerns workers employed in particularly unhealthy conditions, in particularly arduous jobs or in conditions requiring high psychophysical efficiency for reasons of personal safety or environmental safety.

5/ This mainly concerns teachers, journalists, creative and performing artists, but also employees of public inspection bodies and some categories of construction workers.

6/ Dziennik Ustaw of 1994 No. 10, Text 36.

7/ Dziennik Ustaw of 1994 No. 53, Text 214.

8/ The right to the disability pension is granted in respect of disability group III only to people fulfilling agency or mandatory contracts for: "Ruch" company; the State enterprise "Totalizator Sportowy"; Central Enterprise of Petroleum Products; Polish Motor Association (refilling stations operation).

9/ That is, provisions governing pensions for workers and their family members.

10/ Order of the Council of Ministers of 8 August 1988 (Dziennik Ustaw No. 29, Text 199, with amendments).

11/ However, certain differences are observed in the system of individual farmers' social insurance. Farmers acquire the right to this allowance on the basis of the Act of 20 December 1990 concerning social insurance of farmers. The right to this allowance depends on the size of a farm per person in the family (up to two hectares taken for the purposes of calculation).

12/ In 1993 the Social Insurance Fund financed the majority of pension benefits and non-agricultural allowances and the Pension Fund financed agricultural pension benefits. In 1985, the Pension Fund existed but was designated for the payment of non-agricultural pension benefits. Non-agricultural allowances were financed directly from the budget. Agricultural benefits were financed by the Farmers' Social Insurance Fund.

13/ Since 1993 benefits for the armed forces have been payable directly from the State budget and since 1995 benefits for the police have also been excluded from the Social Insurance Fund. Thus, there is no longer any reason for the target subsidy to exist.

14/ In endnote 12 changes in the scope of benefits financed by pension funds in 1985 and 1993 were presented. Since 1995, the principles of financing of, for example, family allowances have changed: they will once again be financed from the budget and not from the Social Insurance Fund.

15/ Order of the Minister of Labour and Social Policy of 21 October 1974 concerning employment of people who have not reached the age of 15 years and releasing juveniles from the obligation of further training (Dziennik Ustaw No. 43, Text 260, amended by Dziennik Ustaw of 1989 No. 20, Text 107).

16/ Służba Pracownicza (Personnel Service) No. 11 of 1994, pp. 5-8.

17/ The standard of living of the population. Food requirement of households in 1993. (Information and statistical analyses, GUS, Warsaw 1993).

18/ Acceptance in Poland of the new criteria concerning the birth and death of a baby has brought about an increase (for example, in 1994, of 1,300) in the numbers of both births and deaths registered. Those differences do not, however, have any impact on the total rates for births and deaths; therefore, those measures, expressing the intensity of these demographic phenomena, are comparable in time. The change in methodology has, however, significantly influenced the number of infant deaths - accounting for an increase of 18 to 20 per cent - as well as the rate, which increased by roughly three points.

19/ At the country level, out of 394 administrative units at the primary level that show a higher than country average mortality for accidents and poisoning, 234 are situated in ecologically endangered areas. That is significantly more than with respect to deaths caused by other diseases, such as circulatory system diseases and tumours.

20/ Act of 17 May 1990 on the distribution of tasks and authorities, in particular acts, between gmina organs and government administration organs, and about the modification of certain acts (Government Regulations and Laws Gazette, No. 34, Text 198).

21/ Ordinance of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of 5 August 1993 on general conditions and procedures for entering into and determining contracts for the delivery of medical services, and procedures for calculating and settling fees for those services.

22/ 212 (2.2 per cent) libraries altogether were lost in the period 1992-1994.

23/ In 1994 the losses overall amounted to 47 libraries; in 9 voivodeships a slight increase was observed, while in 28 the number decreased.

24/ The number decreased in the period 1992-1994 from 7,351 to 4,981.